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ABSTRACT

This compilation contains the verbatim texts of recommendations made by states' delegates from 20 western states participating in the Los Angeles regional conference of the White House Conference on Families. The recommendations are organized by topic for each of the individual states. Topics include the following as related to the family: child care; governmental intervention; cultural and ethnic diversity; employment; alcohol and drug abuse; domestic violence; taxes; special needs; housing; education; the legal system; the media; divorce; energy; preventive health programs; communication; marriage; parenting; the workplace; the elderly; social services; transportation; insurance and pensions; business and industry; parenthood education; women's roles; pornography; abortion; agriculture; nutrition; children's rights; and human reproduction. States participating in the Los Angeles conference were Alaska, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, the Pacific Trust Territories, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. (Author/SS)

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White House Conference on FAMILIES

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SUMMARY

of

STATE REPORTS

Volume Three

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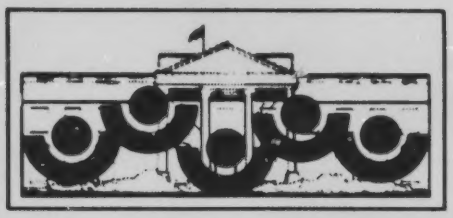

White House Conference on FAMILIES

INTRODUCTION

Unlike previous Conferences the White House Conference on Families is taking its issues directly from the reports of state activities. This book contains the verbatim text of recommendations from states whose delegates will attend the White House Conference in Los Angeles. Other volumes which contain the reports from states attending the White House Conferences in Baltimore and Minneapolis will be available at the Los Angeles Conference. The size of all these reports prevents us from mailing the other two volumes to you but they will be available at the Los Angeles Conference.

We thought it would be essential to share with you the results of these state activities because they represent the hard work and best efforts of thousands upon thousands of Americans who chose to spend a weekend or day in a high school gymnasium or college campus preparing for the WHCF. They spent long hours discussing some of the key problems facing American families and developing recommendations to address those problems. These recommendations are not the result of some prestigious task force or committee. They are not always tidy or perfectly written. But they do represent the concerns of real families and attempts to reach a consensus position. For these reasons, they are far more eloquent and valuable and they hold great promise of leading to real action.

Format

Many state reports came to the WHCF beautifully bound and full of impressive documentation of their state activities. You will not find these descriptions in this volume. It contains in their most simple form the recommendations of the states without editing, summarizing or comments by the WHCF. We simply took the reports and reprinted them for your use. Time, volume, and financial restraints prevented us from even re-typing them. For reasons of length, minority reports or other additions to the recommendations are not reprinted, but will be on file at the Resource Room at the Conference facility. States which have minority reports on file are indicated by an asterisk (*). The Table of Contents reports the topics covered by the states in their own words. It should be a useful tool in locating recommendations which

will be dealt with in particular workgroups. Some states sent no issues report, partial reports, or reports so massive that they cannot be included in this volume. We continue to work with these states and hope to have their final reports available at the Conferences.

I urge you to read these recommendations with care. They represent the hopes, concerns and hard won agreements of thousands of Americans.

Jim Guy Tucker
Chairperson
White House Conference
on Families

FAMILY STRENGTHS AND SUPPORTS

CHILD CARE

Paternity leave
Low income loans for families
Tax benefits for parents doing volunteer work
Tax credit for parental care of children
Parent based child care
Working conditions that support parental child care
More funding for low income day care regarding Alaska day care assistance
Variety of options for child care, including:
- Seasonal child care
- Before and after school child care

THE PROBLEM OF GOVERNMENTAL INTERVENTION

Oppose legislation and policies which weaken family life.

We recommend the following to solve this problem:

Welfare needs to be informed and amended to work-based system
Family impact statement
Volunteer Commission on the Family
Tax policy reform by removing the progressive scale to stimulate productivity
Remove estate and gift taxes between spouses
Re-evaluation of government programs
Against V.D., contraception and abortion, health care for youngsters without parental consent
Battered women shelter
Revision of pension and retirement system to assure that surviving spouse receives the benefits
Support for educative programs
Remove the marriage tax
Recognize the family or that related by blood, marriage, adoption, foster, tribal traditions and excluding homosexual units.

DIVERSITY OF FAMILIES

Diversity of Families formally adopted as its guidelines the theme in the packet on the White House Conference on Families.

The theme reads:

> American families are pluralistic in nature. Our discussion will reflect an understanding and respect of cultural, ethnic and regional differences as well as differences in structure and lifestyle.

CULTURAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Recommend that the federal government recognize state and local decision-making and recommendations in support of subsistence lifestyle.

Recommend that the federal government respect traditional beliefs and customs of all cultural and ethnic diversities.

Recommend that the federal government increase support of bilingual/bicultural programs to include, but not be limited to, educational concerns, and to support family and community involvement.

Recommend that the federal government implement a program which recognizes and acts upon locally initiated family impact statements regarding federal programs and policies affecting families.

LIMITED SERVICES IN ALASKA

Due to unique geography and diverse needs of rural and urban Alaskans, and differences in family structure and lifestyle, we recommend that the federal government give full attention to the voice of local people in regards to all federal programs and policies and that the federal government assess the regional differences and needs in the delivery, adequacy and availability of the following services:

Health Care Concerns

- Physical, mental and nutrition concerns
- Personal safety: prevention of domestic violence; including child abuse and assistance to victims and families of domestic violence

Educational Concerns

- Availability to everyone of all ages, including handicapped
- Recognize minority and cross-cultural concerns: textbooks, curriculum and cultural-fair tests
- Department of Education focus on education for parenthood and life skills management
- Federal government encourage closer interaction between parents and children, families and schools

Employment and Job Training Concerns

- Equal opportunity for employment: minorities, women, and youth
- Federal programs to encourage creation of jobs throughout Alaska, including programs for displaced homemakers
- Encourage development of increased vocational training within communities

Family Support Systems Concerns

- Child care: increased support for local licensing and training of child care providers, and re-evaluate policies regarding costs to parents
- Elderly: inadequate social security provisions, especially older women; provisions for homemakers services so they may remain in their homes.

CHANGING REALITIES OF FAMILY LIFE

EMPLOYMENT/SUBSISTENCE

We recommend that the federal government, in its implementation of employment policies affecting Alaska, be aware and supportive of the idea that all people who wish to work should be able to do so, as well as supportive of the validity of different lifestyles including, but not limited to, the Alaskan subsistence culture.

Recommend:

Alternative Work Systems

- Flex time
- Part time
- Job sharing

Support Systems for Alternative Work Systems

- Child care
- Transportation

Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Different Lifestyles

- More awareness of cultural issues and subsistence lifestyles in rural Alaska
- Local input on rules and regulations affecting rural lifestyles

Encouragement and Support of Homemakers:

- Tax incentives to homemakers with children up to five years old

Federal Government Should Settle the Alaska Lands Issue

Increase AFDC Grants to the Poverty Level.

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

Because alcoholism/drug abuse are major health and social problems in Alaska, affecting nearly all residents either directly or indirectly, and recognizing that these are most effectively dealt with at the local level, we therefore encourage the federal government to support measures to help alleviate this problem.

We ask specific support for:

Money for Programs to Provide the Following Services:

- Early intervention and education
- Employee assistance programs
- In-patient and out-patient "detox" facilities
- Family counseling including residential and out-patient services
- After care and follow-up
- Emphasis on support of existing programs established on the local level

Legislation Prohibiting Advertising for Alcohol and Drugs

More Shows Focusing on Selfawareness, Parenting Skills and Stress Management on Public Television

Increase Efforts to Reach Middle Class about Awareness of Alcoholism

IMPACT ON FAMILIES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES, BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE

SUPPORT OF THE FEDERAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTS, HOUSE BILL 2977 AND SENATE BILL 1843

Support the intent of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Act (Section 2, SS AB): "It is the purpose of this Act to increase the participation by states, local communities, non-profit private organizations, and individual citizens in efforts to prevent domestic violence and provide immediate shelter and other assistance for victims and dependents of victims of domestic violence; to provide technical assistance and training, as appropriate, with respect to domestic violence programs to interested states, local communities, non-profit private organizations, and other interested groups, officials, and persons; to establish an interagency council to seek to coordinate federal programs relating to domestic violence; and to provide for reporting programs relating to domestic violence."

The following are action-oriented projects for this issue:

All legislation requires a family impact statement.

As a preventative action approach, parenting skills education, day and crisis child care activities, alcohol and drug abuse education, and care activities for the elderly be addressed as vital areas of need in the local communities.

REDUCTION OF TAXES

The first priority of the federal government in dealing with tax credits and incentives, should be in the area of credits and incentives that directly benefit families.

The following are action-oriented projects for this issue:

Resolve federal tax policies that discriminate against family groupings.

Repeal the "marriage tax"
Allow a tax-exemption of $1,000.00 for the tax paying head of a family whose household includes a dependent who is sixty-five years of age or older
Allow a tax-exemption three times the normal exemption for adopting a child that is handicapped or otherwise hard to place
Allow extra exemptions in the year a child is born or adopted

Set up a parental support account. Taxpayers can deduct up to $1,500.00 a year if the money is placed in a financial institution to care for their elderly relatives

Return federal and state taxes to the localities with minimum regulations while retaining accountability

Reduce inflation.

IMPACT OF DISCRIMINATION ON FAMILIES

ISSUES

The panel opposes discrimination and racism in all forms.

Due to lack of implementation and balanced enforcement of federal laws, there is discrimination in:

education, health, human rights, economics and employment, the justice system, social services, religion, cultural, racial and Native lifestyles.

Existing federal laws do not address all the problems of discrimination in:

education, health, human rights, economics and employment, the justice system, social services, religion, and particularly cultural, racial, Native and other diverse lifestyles.

Panel recommends:

Penalties, stricter enforcement, increased accountability regarding implementation and enforcement of existing federal anti-discrimination laws. For example, withholding federal funds; providing equal access to legal representation.

Family impact statement required for all new federal legislation that is drafted with local input.

Restore federal funding to collect child support for non-AFDC families.

Federal support of anti-child stealing laws and regulations.

Federal legislation that enables a father to remain in the home when the family is otherwise eligible for AFDC.

Congress reaffirm its support for passage of the ERA.

FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Summary of the issues and problems:

To help families with handicapped members by providing for the:

Full implementation and enforcement of PL 94-142, Education of the Handicapped.

Dissemination of information in the community about programs available to assist handicapped persons in the family such as:

Respite care centers

Counseling services for the whole family

Support and training for the family that encourages quality home care

Incentives to encourage adoption of handicapped children such as:

Tax relief

Free health care

Free legal services

For the purpose of keeping special families together.

Recognizing crisis in families and assisting families through the crisis period by:

Building support networks that assist:

families experiencing domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual assault

single parent families

elderly and low income families

families experiencing health related emergencies

Prompt delivery of public assistance services meeting basic family needs such as, quality child care, housing, medical services, nutritional services, and job training opportunties.

TOPIC: Housing

ISSUE: In what ways can the federal government reverse present trends in housing to ensure that affordable, safe housing is available to all families regardless of race, age, sexual preference, size of family or physical disability.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government that affordable, safe housing for all families is a national priority.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels to encourage energy efficient housing for all families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Federal government should adjust its interest rate policies to maximize available funds for owner-occuppied housing for families.

2. Federal government should develop tax incentives, low interest rates and loan guarantees for the development of low-cost housing for families of all ages.

3. Federal government should allocat oil, gas and other energy related taxes to provide grants, and low interest loans to weatherize homes and install renewable sources of energy efficient, pollution-free systems.

4. Government at all levels should use lending, loan guarantees, inspection and contracting authorities to ensure that family homes are safe from lead, asbestos and other toxic materials that are harmful to families; and that all homes are accessible to disabled individuals.

Families and Major Institutions
Judicial/Legal System - Foster Care (cont)

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Adopt national foster care reform that includes at least the following components:

   a) A nationally uniform emergency response program available to any child at any time who is alleged to be endangered by abuse, neglect, or exploitation. This service is designed to provide immediate protective services to prevent damage or harm to a child, with emergency shelter services available as needed for children and/or battered parents.

b) A family maintenance program providing assistance for a fixed time period to all children and their families when the child's growth and development are determined to be endangered as a result of abuse, neglect or exploitation by his/her parents. In addition to protecting the child's right to growth and development, this program is designed to prevent the separation of parent and child by treating and/or instructing the parent in how to correct or compensate for the problems which caused the child to be endangered.

c) A family reunification program available to any child and his/her natural parents when the child has been placed in foster care to protect him/her from abuse, neglect or exploitation. Through a variety of services, an attempt is made to correct or compensate for the causal factors of out-of-home placement, and if necessary, be able to document that the child is likely never to be able to safely return home.

d) A long-term placement program available to all children in out-of-home placement for whom a determination has been made that they will not be returning to their parents and that they are not immediate candidates for adoption. This program should consist of arrangements by the case worker for: 1) a long-term placement in an alternate parenting structure to guide the growth and development of the child; 2) the supervision and periodic reassessment of this long-term placement; and 3) the specialized needs of the child which are not assigned to alternate parents.

e) Services which should be available to the child and his/her family, as part of these programs should at least include, social work services, emergency care, transportation, respite care, and parent training and education.

ISSUE: How can government at all levels protect families against housing discrimination because of age, geographic location, race, disability, sexual preference, or size of family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

It should be the law of government at all levels that discrimination in housing because of age of family members, size of families, geographic location of the house, race, disability, or sexual preference of one or more members of the family will not be tolerated.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Congress should amend all appropriate sections of the Civil Rights Act to prevent discrimination in housing both for renting and purchasing, because of age, geographic location or sexual preference.

2. Government at all levels should use its leadership, existing resources, and its authority to prevent the practice of "red-lining" by those lending institutions which consistently disapprove mortgage loans in certain neighborhoods because of the race or income of its residents.

3. Housing and other local authority boards with authority to approve rural housing and other housing incentive programs must be required to be reflective of the disabled, economic, ethnic and pluralistic nature of local families.

4. Government at all levels should develop as one of its highest priorities, programs, laws and incentives to ensure that housing in barrios, ghettos, Indian reservations and other low-income areas is up-graded to a minimum national acceptable standard.

TOPIC: Housing

ISSUE: How can the federal government ensure that recreational facilities and transportation services are available to all families near their homes?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government and private institutions to create a neighborhood and community that is conducive to healthy family activities.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels that families should not be deprived of the opportunity to earn a living or take advantage of recreational facilities because of lack of transportation.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government at all levels should develop programs and incentives that ensure adequate distribution of park and recreational facilities that are available and accessible to all neighborhoods and that such facilities are accessible to all family members regardless of age, sex or disability.

2. The federal government should launch a campaign to improve existing and develop new neighborhood based parks and family oriented recreational facilities to ensure their availability to chicanos, blacks, Native Americans and other residents of low-income areas.

3. The federal government, through incentives, leadership and taxation, should ensure that new land developments protect the natural environment and include recreational facilities for all family members.

4. The federal government should expedite development and encourage expansion of public transportation services with priority given for transportation to vital services such as health facilities, employment sites, welfare and utility offices, and educational and recreational facilities.

TOPIC: Cultural, Linguistic, Ethnic and Religious Pluralism

ISSUE: How can cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious pluralism be encouraged, protected and legitimized to strengthen American families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government to support an atmosphere of acceptance, respect and understanding for families of different cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious backgrounds and oppose discrimination and racism which is responsible for heavy, unjust pressures, misunderstandings, fear, hate and injustice in social, political and economic life for many American families.

2. It should be the policy of the government and all private institutions to accept diversity as a source of strength in family life which must be considered in planning family policy and programs.

3. It should be the policy of government to utilize the inherent strengths of the extended family, neighborhood, religious affiliation and other informal networks of the cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious diversity of families in planning delivery of services to American families.

4. It should be the policy of government in planning and delivering public programs, to safeguard and benefit from the singularities and strengths of the culutural, linguistic, ethnic and religious diversity of family forms present in America.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Implement a program designed to educate and sensitize those responsible for the preparation and implementation of legislation and administrative rules and regulations regarding their impact upon the cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious pluralism and diversity of families.

2. Immediately make appropriate changes in current public programs to make them more sensitive, responsive and available to the cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious diversity and uniqueness of American families, including training and employment of bilingual/bicultural personnel in all units of government, particularly human service agencies.

3. When planning and delivering new programs, government should consult with representatives of the cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious family forms from both urban and rural areas.

4. Make special efforts to correct the negative impact on the cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious diversity of American families in the educational system, and in the electronic and printed media.

5. Fund appropriate community based organizations to advocate on behalf of the special needs and interests of the cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious diversity of families and communities.

6. The Office on Families and the Office on Children, Youth and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services should have a special component on cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious families.

7. The Indian Child Welfare Act, P.L. 95-608, should be fully funded to allow for its implementation.

TOPIC: Economy

ISSUE: In what ways can the federal tax policy assist in supporting and maintaining the family unit?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the tax policy of the federal government to encourage extended families and support families with unusual circumstances or special needs.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels to support the family as the basic economic unit of society.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Eliminate tax discrimination against couples filing joint returns.

2. Tax credits and benefits should be allowed for families that maintain and care for senior citizens or disabled members of their family within their homes.

3. Tax benefits should be allowed for those parent(s) who choose to stay home and care for younger members of the family.

4. Explore and revise tax incentives and deductions to help families secure affordable child care services and encourage employers to share in the provision of child care services.

5. Dependant exemptions should be increased according to the annual economic price index.

TOPIC: Economy

ISSUE: In what ways should the federal government encourage family support by both public and private employers and develop assistance programs for the hard-core unemployed?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Employers of people who have small or disabled family members should develop policies that allow for flexibility of work schedules.

2. Federal assistance programs for displaced homemakers, adolescent parents and hard-core unemployed should be developed.

3. Assistance should be given for those unemployed as a result of techological changes in their field of employment.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public and private employers should, whenever feasible, develop flexible work schedules and job sharing plans which would provide parents the opportunity to be responsive to both their family's and employer's needs.

2. The federal tax policies should provide incentives to encourage employers to hire the hard-core unemployed, adolescent parents, and homemakers who seek employment after long absences from the work force. Such incentives should encourage long-term employment and discourage the rapid turnover of employees as is currently the problem in many government supported training and employment programs.

3. The federal government should lease at a minimum cost its unused land to farm workers and their families who are displaced from employment due to mechanization.

4. Training in appropriate technology, in new energy related fields, pollution control and environmental conservation should be offered to hard-core unemployed and other displaced employees as a result of technological changes, corporate moves, and loss of publically funded programs and projects.

5. Currently unused desert land owned by the federal government should be leased at minimum cost to low-income residents and small family farms for production of crops which can be used as alternative sources of energy and other domestic uses.

6. Economic assistance should be extended to Native American reservations to ensure the availability of resources necessary for the attainment of adequate housing, health, nutritional and educational well-being, including irrigation and agricultural resources. Additional resources should be made available to reservations to provide Native Americans the opportunity to gain or maintain economic self-sufficiency in a manner consistent with their culture.

7. Extend the labor protection act now available to employees of corporations moving outside the country to corporate moves within the United States when such moves create family hardships and unemployment.

TOPIC: Violence and the Family

ISSUE: How can the family and its individual members be protected from acts of violence or fear of violence within the home?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the government to protect every individual's right to exist without fear of violence. Any violence - physical or mental - is an insult to us as a society.

2. It should be the policy of the government that prevention and the earliest intervention in abuse is of the greatest value to society for the healthy growth of the individual and the family.

3. It should be the policy of the government that mediation and treatment should be the optimum methods of dealing with problems of family violence.

4. It should be the policy of the government to preserve the family unit when possible by making child care, respite care, counseling services and other support systems available to the entire family affected by acts of violence.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Develop comprehensive primary violence prevention programs targeted for at-risk families and groups.

2. Educate for awareness of alternative methods for venting frustration, anger and stress.

3. Expand the response systems available to victims of family violence including respite care, couseling, self-help groups, community based resource centers, and crisis lines.

4. Develop specific treatment programs designed to assist perpetuators and victims of violence.

5. Inform and educate the public of their legal responsibility and protection under existing law, addressing the issues of incest, spouse and child battering, and other areas not currently brought into social and public consciousness.

6. Counseling services in support of child abuse and neglect treatment response systems should be available to all families in need.

7. All law enforcement personnel should be trained in family violence mediation.

TOPIC: Families and Education

ISSUE: In what ways can the government and the educational system (public, private, formal and informal) help students and parents prepare for the responsibilities of parenthood and family life?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government that early and continuing education dedicated to developing strong and healthy inter-personal and inter-familial relationships should be a priority as a means of strengthening families and preventing potential family crises (ie., family violence, teenage pregnancy, divorce, etc.).

2. It should be the policy of the government to advocate respect and understanding of the diversity of family lifestyles,

cultures and values, as well as assisting families adjust to the changing structures of family life, throughout the school systems.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Develop guidelines for school districts to implement comprehensive family life education courses in public and private school districts for students, and simultaneous programs of ongoing education for parents and other adults interested in participating.

2. Provide funding for implementation of family life education courses in private community based organizations and counseling centers.

3. Provide for licensed marriage, child and family counselors on school grounds for children and their parents to consult with on family problems.

TOPIC: Families and Education

ISSUE: In what ways can the educational system, formal and informal, be made relevant to the needs of families and support them in their diversity and uniqueness?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the government and the educational system to recognize the tragic misrepresentation of historical facts which have consistently been taught throughout our nation's development and which have contributed to the psychic harm and deterioration of many ethnic minority families.

2. It should be the policy of the government to ensure that the diversity of American life- inlcuding race, age, language, ethnicity, religion, sexual preference, disability and class- be accepted and reflected accurately throughout our educational system. The current curricula have established standards that denograde the role, cultural values and contributions of U.S. minorities, causing antagonism and creating feelings of inferiority.

3. It should be the policy of government to guarantee that opportunities for quality education be available to everyone, regardless of race, culture, language, age, disabilities, or economic status.

4. Furthermore, it should be the policy of government and the educational system to recognize the strengths and richness in the diversity and pluralism of family lifestyles, cultures and values.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Social science curricula requires an accurate revision of social and cultural history to reflect the real events and contributions of ethnic inorities, women, homosexuals and other groups who have been negatively portrayed or eliminated from historical documentation.

2. Courses in family lifestyles, cultures and values should be required for a teaching credential.

3. Currently credentialed school personnel should be required to take additional course work which would provide information and awareness of the diversity and pluralism of families.

TOPIC: Health - Mental Health

ISSUE: How can the federal government ensure that mental health services are available to families in stress?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to ensure that professionally trained mental health counselors are available to all families, regardless of income.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government that mental health services are provided in the culture and language of the families receiving services.

3. It should be the policy of government to make prevention of mental illness a priority and to recognize that adequate food, shelter, clothing, income and a healthy social environment are conducive to prevention of stress and emotional problems.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There should be nationally recognized minimum curriculum and certification standards that all professionals engaged in the provision of marriage and family counseling services must pass and maintain through continuing education. Courses and certification standards should be representative of the cultural, linguistic and ethnic background of society.

2. The federal government should support through its leadership and resources, educational efforts to end the stigma currently associated with mental health and family stress counseling and encourage the active development of family counseling centers which provide counseling and educational services for one or all of the family, regardless of income.

3. The federal government should allow Medicaid and Medi-Care payments and encourage private insurance reimbursement for the provision of prevention programs and family stress couseling services.

4. The federal government, through financial incentives, grants, and training efforts similar to the national health service care, should ensure that family counselors are available to all families in their own language and culture and that such services should be based within the community of the serviced population.

5. Government and private institutions, as a priority, should develop prevention and treatment programs aimed at high-risk

populations. Such programs should include single parent families, adolescent parents, minority groups and disabled families.

6. Employers should be encouraged to develop family stress counseling programs on the job site or through contracted arrangements.

7. Counseling centers should be encouraged to provide evening services for those families unable to participate during the day because of work or school.

TOPIC: Health - Health Care for Families

ISSUE: In what ways can the federal government and private institutions ensure that adequate health care and preventive services are available to all families, regardless of their geographic location, language, ethnic background, or income?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to eliminate existing barriers to the provisions of adequate medical services.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage and support prevention and nutrition services.

3. It should be the policy of the federal government to increase efforts that reduce institutionalization of family members.

4. It should be the policy of congress and federal agencies to promote and develop methods to control the rapidly rising cost of health care that places a financial burden on families and prevents them from obtaining health services necessary for their well-being.

5. It should be the policy of government to recognize that prenatal care and child health services are a right that should be guaranteed and protected for every mother and child, and are cost-effective methods of preventing future disabilities or health crisis.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The federal government should modify funding for medical training and develop incentives for the training of family practice physicians and nurse practitioners, with priority given to student representatives of medically underserved families.

2. The Department of Health and Human Services should instruct federal, state and local health system agencies to develop planning methodology which allows for the identification of medically underserved areas within existing planning boundries when ethnic, culturally distinct or non-English speaking neighborhoods are present.

   Federal health planning methods should contain criteria for identifying medically underserved areas that include "island

pockets of need", including ethnic and/or non-English speaking neighborhoods in urban areas and other medically underserved areas which are not now identified by current methods.

3. Encourage the development and expansion of a system of community based clinics that would address the entire health needs of families including prevention, education, treatment and referral services, with extended hours of service to accommodate working families. Such a system should be culturally and linguistically representative of the population served.

4. The federal government should increase funding for enforcement of the "Hill-Burton" Act which provides for free or low-cost care by health facilities built with federal funds for families in need and increase funding for enforcement of 504 regulations to ensure that all health facilities are accessible to disabled family members.

5. Encourage development of health education programs which include self-care, nutritional, and educational programs that will allow family members the opportunity to make choices regarding their reproductive rights, dietary and living habits and would facilitate the family's ability to make effective use of available facilities.

6. Federal government should develop incentives and encourage alternatives to institutionalization of family members; such as home health aids and outpatient surgical centers.

7. Government and private institutions should develop as a priority, a targeted approach to solving the health problems of high-risk populations. Such approaches should include an effort at reducing the high infant mortality rate among blacks, diabetes among chicanos and high blood pressure among all poor people and minorities.

8. Government at all levels, in cooperation with private providers of health care, should take immediate action to solve the astronomical rise of health care costs which prevents families from obtaining needed health services.

9. Incorporate into the health delivery system and recognize as legitimate, treatment programs that reflect the cultural traditions of the population being serviced (i.e., Chicano curanderos, Indian medicine men, Chinese acupuncturists, etc.).

TOPIC: Health - Substance Abuse

ISSUE: In what ways can government and other institutions ensure that all families have access to prevention and treatment programs designed to reduce the rate of alcohol and drug abuse?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government, schools and private institutions, to make available to all families programs of prevention, education and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse, including prescription and illicit drugs.

2. It should be the policy of government to recognize the need for all family members to participate in treatment and counseling programs when one member of the family has an alcohol or drug problem.

3. It should be the policy of government and private agencies to offer community based treatment programs in an atmosphere and environment that is accessible to families and in the language and culture of those families receiving services.

4. It should be the policy of government and private institutions in delivering treatment programs to do so in a manner that helps maintain the family unit and is the least disruptive to the employment and educational needs of the individual family members.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Mandate that alcohol and drug abuse edcuation and prevention courses be required for all school age children, and develop a major public service media campaign to educate the general public.

2. Stricter controls on prescriptions for tranquillizers and other legal drugs should be enforced, accompanied by a major educational effort to minimize dependency on such narcotics.

3. Alcohol consumption in movies, television and advertising campaigns should not be glamorized, particularly during family viewing hours.

4. Expansion and development of substance abuse treatment shelters for single parents which includes facilities and services for their children to help maintain the family unit and prevent unnecessary foster care placement.

5. Encourage employers to develop employee substance abuse counseling services in an atmosphere that is free of stigma or retaliation.

TOPIC: Child Care

ISSUE: What actions can be taken to ensure that there are affordable, diverse, adequate and quality alternatives to meet the needs of all families who by choice or necessity require child care services?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the government to recognize that changing family structures and economic conditions are creating new and unprecedented child care needs and necessitates adoption of a national child care policy that accepts child care as a positive source of support for families.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels to promote the development of alternative forms of care, both center and home-based, to meet the diversity of child care needs required by American families, including migrant care, infant care, after school care, high school day care centers for teenage parents, and pre-school care for underserved areas.

3. It should be the policy of government to provide culturally sensitive, bilingual, subsidized child care that will: a) enhance the functioning of a child with special needs, including the mentally and physically disabled; b) serve as respite care for families in stress or crisis and prevent loss of custody of the child; and c) enable a parent(s) or legal guardian to obtain job training, continue education or maintain employment, especially for adolescent parents and low-income families.

4. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage employers to share in the provision of child care services for their employees.

5. It should be the policy of government to recognize that parental control of the services provided for their children and parental choice among a variety of options are the foundation of a family - supportive child care system. Parents must have the economic, emotional and informational resources to choose a child care option that meets their own perceived needs.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Expand and promote parental choice in child care through the following:

   a) establishment of child care information, resource and referral services to help parents identify existing child care services;

   b) document child care needs based upon parental requests for services, and to provide technical assistance and support services to existing and potential providers of care.

2. Explore and revise tax incentives and deductions to:

   a) Help families secure affordable services;

   b) encourage employers to share in the provision of child care services.

3. Develop methods for providing start-up costs and technical assistance for the development of new child care programs, especially for those programs serving low-income children in areas of determined need.

4. Expand and develop child care services for migrant children in the U.S., with separate funding available specifically for identification of need in migrant worker communities.

TOPIC: Impact of Public and Private Policies on Families

ISSUE: In what ways can public and private policies maintain and assist the family unit?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of all federal government programs to eliminate any practices which threaten to destroy the unity or integrity of the family.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to develop laws and regulations which are appropriate to local needs and are consistant with the cultural, ethnic and pluralistic nature of American families.

3. It should be the policy of all government laws and regulations to respect parental rights and responsibilities.

4. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage similar sensitivity and responsiveness regarding families in the private sector.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Review all federal programs and amend those laws and regulations regarding such programs as disability income and welfare payments which discourage family unity.

2. All federal laws and regulations should be developed in a flexible manner to allow for individual local needs to take precedent in its implementation.

3. Minority families and representatives of diverse family forms must always be consulted by federal agencies prior to the development of any programs in their community.

4. All policy makers in all agencies of the federal government should take into account the impact that proposed laws and regulations will have on families and publish family impact analyses in the Federal Register for public review and comment, along with proposed regulations.

TOPIC: Impact of Public and Private Policies on Families

ISSUE: In what manner can public and private institutions insure that present and future policies protect the family as a unit and that their services encourage and promote family unity?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of public and private institutions to promote delivery of services as close to where families live as possible.

2. It should be the policy of public and private institutions to promote delivery of services in the least disruptive manner to families as is possible.

3. It should be the policy and law of the land that the family is the best place to take care of children, the elderly and disabled family members.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act, regarding Medi-Care and Medicaid , as well as Title XX of the Social Security Act, should be amended to reimburse families for home-maker services and respite care when necessary for the care of disabled or elderly relatives at home.

2. Require private health insurance companies to reimburse families for nurturing and nursing services when ill relatives are kept at home.

3. Institutions such as hospitals, sanitariums, convalescent hosptials and prisons should support and encourage frequent visitations by members of traditional and non-traditional families. Efforts should be made to ensure that visiting hours are consistent with the needs of families and other visitors.

4. Support the expansion and development of multi-purpose senior citizen centers that provide day care, nutrition, and a broad range of out-patient services and reduce the need for institutionalization.

TOPIC: Families and the Judicial/Legal System

ISSUE: In what ways can the judicial/legal system be used to support families in and out of the courtroom?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It should be policy of the federal government to encourage the national development of a family support system within the court system.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels to develop uniform, legal recognition of non-traditional family forms.

3. It should be the policy of government at all levels to assure that laws and legal procedures support the right of every child to live in a family unit.

4. It should be the policy of government at all levels that adoption record files be open to adoptees and to encourage adoption agencies and courts to indicate in the record as much family health and other information as is available and encourage the sharing of future information which is pertinent to insure physical and moral well-being of the natural and adoptive parents and the adoptee.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encourage and support the development and expansion of family concilliation courts staffed by specialists in behavioral sciences and family counseling.

2. Provide assistance and support for the development of curriculum leading to a professionally recognized specialty in family law for judges, legal staff and marriage and family counselors, with continuing education mandatory.

3. Legal issues which result from the break-up of the family where child custody, or child support payments are contested, should be initially referred to the court of concilliation for study and resolution in a non-adversarial environment, and to encourage joint/shared custody whenever feasible.

ISSUE: In what ways can the foster care system be reformed to protect children and support the family structure as the best place for a child to grow and be nurtured?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government at all levels to prevent the separation of children from their parents, whenever possible, and to take the necessary steps to reunify those families that have been separated through foster care placement.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels to provide sufficient, early intervention to assist natural parents in coping with problems in caring for their children.

3. It should be the policy of government at all levels to establish, uniform, objective standards for removing a child from his/her home, and to make available appropriate alternatives to out-of-home placement of children.

4. It should be the policy of government at all levels that it is better to keep children at home whenever possible, and when not possible, to quickly provide a permanent placement. In the absence of substantial danger to a child's physical health, or a child's suffering severe emotional damage, or unless parents/guardians are unwilling to have physical custody of the child, it is in the best interests of the child to remain with or be returned to his/her parents or guardians.

5. It should be the policy of government at all levels to assure adequate legal counsel for parents and children in courts and administrative procedures to protect their rights.

6. It should be the policy of government at all levels to provide structured and timely decisions regarding a foster child's status to facilitate the reunification of the child with his/her parents or to provide the child with more stable and permanent placement, including adoption.

7. It should be the policy of government at all levels to guarantee that each child placed in out-of-home care has a clean, safe and healthy environment, which meets nationally accepted standards.

8. It should be the policy of government at all levels when placing children in out-of-home care to do so as close to his/her natural parents as possible and in a setting similar to his/her cultural, linguistic, ethnic and religious background.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Adopt national foster care reform that includes at least the following components:

   a) A nationally uniform emergency response program available to any child at any time who is alleged to be endangered by abuse, neglect, or exploitation. This service is designed to provide immediate protective services to prevent damage or harm to a child, with emergency shelter services available as needed for children and/or battered parents.

   b) A family maintenance program providing assistance for a fixed time period to all children and their families when the child's growth and development are determined to be endangered as a result of abuse, neglect or exploitation by his/her parents. In addition to protecting the child's right to growth and development, this program is designed to prevent the separation of parent and child by treating and/or instructing the parent in how to correct or compensate for the problems which caused the child to be endangered.

   c) A family reunification program available to any child and his/her natural parents when the child has been placed in foster care to protect him/her from abuse, neglect or exploitation. Through a variety of services, an attempt is made to correct or compensate for the causal factors of out-of-home placement, and if necessary, be able to document that the child is likely never to be able to safely return home.

   d) A long-term placement program available to all children in out-of-home placement for whom a determination has been made that they will not be returning to their parents and that they are not immediate candidates for adoption. This program should consist of arrangements by the case worker for: 1) a long-term placement in an alternate parenting structure to guide the growth and development of the child; 2) the supervision and periodic reassessment of this long-term placement; and 3) the specialized needs of the child which are not assigned to alternate parents.

   e) Services which should be available to the child and his/her family, as part of these programs should at least include, social work services, emergency care, transportation, respite care, and parent training and education.

2. Implementation through Title XX of a massive training effort for foster care parents in working with children with behavioral, emotional and physical problems.

3. Require, for each child entering the system, the development of an overall service plan which would outline the child's needs, home-life, and previous history with social service agencies to facilitate a coordinated, inter-disciplinary approach to serving those needs. This should be concurrent with national guidelines and requirements for reporting and

information services to keep accurate accounts of each child placed in foster care and require periodic review of case status.

4. Implementation of an adoption assistance program designed to provide the additional assistance needed by many families to open their homes to adopt a foster child, particularly those children with emotional and/or physical handicaps.

5. Make available to all families quality child care, family life education courses, and community education regarding child abuse, as preventive measures toward reducing the conditions and factors that cause the need for out-of-home placement.

6. The Indian Child Welfare Act, P.L. 95-608, should be fully funded to allow for its implementation.

ISSUE: How can the federal government ensure that immigration policies stress efforts toward family reunification?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal immigration agencies, that family unity should be their number one priority.

2. It should be the policy of government at all levels to attempt to reunify families separated by deportation and other immigration matters.

3. It should be the policy of government at all levels that children abandoned as a result of deportation have a right to citizenship and a family.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Immigration policies should be amended so that priority is given for legal migration into this country to facilitate family reunification.

2. Require that, when children are abandoned because their parents are deported, government at all levels, in cooperation with other countries, attempt parental searches, and place abandoned children in the care of relatives or in temporary foster care that is as close to the cultural and linguistic environment of the child as possible.

3. Grant full citizenship status to abandoned children whose parents cannot be found and place them for adoption with priority given to adoptive parents who are of the same linguistic and cultural background as the natural parents.

4. Federal refugee programs should make settlement of natural and extended families and family reunification efforts their number one priority.

TOPIC: Media

ISSUE: In what way can the federal government ensure that the mass media can become a more effective source of education and consumer information for families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

It should be the policy of the federal government to ensure that mass media can become an effective source of accurate consumer information which will inform families about the availability of existing resources and assist them in making informed decisions regarding their health, nutrition and social welfare.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Federal Communications Commission should encourage and develop licensing criteria that will require equal advertising time - especially during children's programming and family viewing hours - for consumer products which have been endorsed or approved by the American Dental and Medical Associations, the Product Safety Commission, and parent and teacher organizations.

2. Government and private institutions should encourage the expansion of efforts to include in public service announcements, documentary specials and regular programming, consumer safety and educational information which will enhance the ability of family members to cope with societal changes and pressures.

3. The Federal Communications Commission, in cooperation with governmental agencies and families should develop inter-disciplinary task forces which will identify and prioritize items of interest and concern to families which can be disseminated through the mass media.

4. Local mass media outlets should be encouraged to develop and expand efforts to inform families about resources and educational programs which are available in local and nearby communities which will assist and support families. Such programming and information should be presented in a manner that is consistant with the language and culture of all local residents and at the hours and schedules which are convenient to most families.

ISSUE: How can the federal government and private institutions ensure that mass media can contribute to and enhance the growth and development of all American families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage and promote programming which contributes to the growth and development of the individual within the context of their respective families.

2. It should be the policy of all mass communications executives, private institutions and all families in society to acknowledge that the mass media is part of American life and influences individual and group attitudes, behavior and actions, and to make all advertising, programming and viewing decisions with the intention of minimizing adverse affects on families.

3. It should be the policy of mass media executives to accept responsibility for their role in fostering negative sexual, ethnic, cultural and religious stereotypes and to recognize that positive, accurate mass media portrayal of all groups

in America will contribute towards social integration, tolerance and respect for social diversity.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The federal government and private institutions should expand research into areas dealing with television and its effect on family life.

2. The Federal Communications Commission should develop specific viewing criteria that encourages mass media to develop programming which minimizes the glorification of physical and emotional violence, disrespect for one another and is free of negative stereotypes of all society members, with priority to be given to those programs scheduled during family viewing hours.

3. Private and public institutions should encourage mass media to develop realistic intergenerational programming which accurately represents all ethnic ane social classes.

4. The Federal Communications Commission should develop specific licensing criteria that identifies the contributions of existing and prospective licensees in positively and accurately showing the social contributions of cultural, ethnic and religious groups in America.

COLORADO*

Topic:

Housing for families in the 1980's

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY --

What current government policies, guidelines, rules and regulations including interest rates and taxes are positively or negatively affecting housing?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

It should be the policy of the government to encourage family housing by controlling interest rates and providing tax relief.

Program Recommendations:

A program be instituted to provide income tax credit to homeowners.

A program be instituted to expand interest subsidy programs to serve families that cannot afford housing any other way.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - Will families and individuals be able to afford adequate housing and what can be done to insure the rights of families to adequate housing within healthy communities and to alleviate forced restrictions that trap families in inadequate housing and prevent government housing from becoming ghettos?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Government should provide the means to make housing available to all people within a healthy community context.

Program Recommendations:

In order to keep housing costs under control, Congress should balance the budget, i.e., control inflation.

Strategy Recommendations:

Lobby Congress to balance the budget and provide appropriate incentive to develop the housing market.

Topic:

Divorce

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

What can we do to strengthen the family and reduce divorce?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Educational programs regarding marriage and family life should be encouraged by all levels of government as a life-long learning process.

Program Recommendations:

Funds should be allocated to states to initiate or improve comprehensive, integrated, community-wide programs in marriage and family life education.

Strategy Recommendations:

Marriage and family life information needs to be integrated into curriculum for kindergarten through the twelfth grade, as well as comprehensive training be made available through a variety of community resources, agencies, and institutions to be funded. These programs must meet certain criteria regarding content and evaluation.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - What can be done to strengthen family relationships, while recognizing that dissolution of marriage is sometimes the necessary outcome, and then, what laws, programs and support systems can be developed to assist each member of the family to deal with the change?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

All levels of government should provide funding means and support for programs and policies that would:

1. strengthen family relationships
2. assist all family members in adapting to family stress and change due to divorce

Program Recommendations: We recommend that all government agencies dealing with the aforementioned policy direct their laws and appropriations to:

a. Programs to reduce family stress
b. Day care
c. Parent guidance programs
d. Integrating family living courses as part of our entire educational curriculum
e. Pre-marital and family counseling and education
f. Provide psychological care for needs of children involved in custody determinations
g. Make marriage economically advantageous to the family

Strategy Recommendations:

Concerned individuals should write to their local, state and federal elected officials urging support of these programs and policies.

Topic:

Single-parent families

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

Can we develop comprehensive support systems to promote self-sufficiency for one-parent families?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Local, state and federal government shall pass comprehensive legislation pertaining to housing, child care, career development and family services in rural and urban areas, to assist one-parent families to achieve self-sufficiency.

Program Recommendations:

HUD shall provide Section 8 type housing for one-parent families in rural and urban areas.

HUD shall provide affordable, quality child care; comprehensive family services to include career development, family management and counseling.

Strategy Recommendations:

One-parent families shall organize an advocacy effort to meet with the Colorado Congressional Delegation to develop needed legislation.

Topic:

Single-parent families

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can comprehensive support services be provided to assist the single-parent family in becoming self-sufficient?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

State, local and federal agencies should develop and sustain comprehensive programs and legislation aimed at providing self-sufficiency of the single-parent family.

Program Recommendations:

All of the following will be offered on a sliding fee scale:

1. Child Care
   - --affordable and quality
   - --twenty-four hour
   - --sick child care
   - --accessible
   - --special needs care
   - --crisis care
   - --before- and after-school care

CONTINUED ON ATTACHED SHEET

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Start local support for single-parent families with purpose of lobbying for single-parent legislation and public awareness.
2. Forming community support groups.
3. Supporting existing programs and political candidates concerned with single-parent families.
4. Utilizing educational institutions and community services as resources.

Issue: How can comprehensive support services be provided to assist the single-parent family in becoming self-sufficient?

Program Recommendations (continued from first page):

2. Housing
   - --accessible rental and ownership
   - --low interest
   - --legislation allowing for fullest possible variety of housing alternatives

3. Family Services
   - --Education
   - --Career and vocational planning and development
   - --Drop-in centers
   - --Big Brother/Big Sister/Grandparent type concepts
   - --Legal services
   - --Family planning
   - --General health care
   - --Parenting

4. Other
   - --Programs encompassing all family services for single-parent families, e.g., Warren Village
   - --Provide for nondiscriminating legislation for single parents
   - --Acknowledging the competency of the single-parent family through public education
   - --Financial aid and other assistance for continuing education for the single parent
   - --Adapting of all above services for rural areas

Topic:

Unmet/changing needs in human services

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can the unique needs and changing roles of women be addressed?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

It should be the policy of the public and private sectors to address the unique and changing roles of women.

Program Recommendations:

State and local government should provide legislation, funding, and tax incentives to address the needs of homemakers and employed women in the following areas of need:

--Day Care
--Social Security
--Support Services
--Job Training

Strategy Recommendations:

Concerned individuals should form coalitions to create necessary advocacy to effect this recommendation.

Topic:

Unmet/changing needs in human services

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

In what ways can community quality day care be provided for more children at a reasonable cost?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

1. Provide day care services for all low-income families.
2. Provide tax credits for expenses incurred by families for day care.
3. Provide tax credits for day care providers.
4. Provide government-funded, free day care services for low-income families.

Program Recommendations:

1. Government should provide incentives to private providers of infant-toddler care.
2. Poverty income levels should relate to the cost-of-living index.
3. Any employer who employs more than fifty employees shall provide day care services.
4. The Federal government shall make direct grants to county governments to meet 60 percent of the total cost of day care services.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Lobby for incentives for increased tax credits.
2. Write letters to public officials.
3. Develop information center to provide names and addresses of decision makers.
4. Encourage employers to independent action.
5. Get the press involved.

Topic:

Unmet/changing needs in human services

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can human services be oriented to foster self-help and pride, and eliminate the dependency cycle?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

All human services should be oriented to foster self-help and pride, and eliminate the dependency cycle.

Program Recommendations:

To provide adequate financial assistance and sensitive personnel to meet program objectives.

Strategy Recommendations:

To consolidate and upgrade human service agencies and professional preparation and to lobby for appropriate funding for public and private human services agencies.

Topic:

Unmet/changing needs in human services

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - How much should government involvement with families increase or decrease from present levels and how can human services oriented to support families be transferred to state and local entities?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

The family has the primary responsibility for its members and, whenever possible, government policy should encourage and guarantee family responsibility for its own members.

Program Recommendations:

Increase community involvement in decision-making, administration and delivery of human services.

Strategy Recommendations:

Establish a state clearinghouse for information, referral and coordination of human services and establish local human service councils as an advisory body to local elected officials.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - How can federal, state and local services, including private organizations, be coordinated so that they successfully support and deliver services to all families and individuals within families?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Human services programs, public and private, should develop comprehensive programs to meet the needs of families.

Goal: To work together to coordinate all their services for the good of the family through a "Neighborhood Family Council."

Program Recommendations:

To establish community and/or neighborhood family councils which are in close contact with individual families.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - What can be done to create new jobs and independent living assistance for the elderly? How can more financial and social support be provided to care for the elderly within the home? What can we do to prevent unnecessary institutionalization of children, the elderly and the handicapped? In what way can the financial burden of families with handicapped members be eased to allow a greater chance of the family remaining intact?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Enhance the independent living of people.

Program Recommendations:

Through flexible funding for communities, establish alternatives to institutional placement and encourage the private sector and insurance companies to take on more responsibility.

Strategy Recommendations:

Through local, state and Federal legislation, allow such flexible funding and encourage the private sector and insurance companies through the use of tax credits, as well as use of educational programs.

Topic:

Energy and growth impacts on families

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can we assure that human service needs and employment are planned for and implemented for growth communities?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

A joint review process similar to that in Gunnison will be expanded to be both legislated and supported by the state.

Program Recommendations:

1. Powers and duties of the joint review include local citizens (a percentage reflective of community), industry, human service personnel, local and state officials and federal officials where appropriate.
2. Conduct an ongoing medical, social, and environmental needs assessment.
3. Where federal officials are involved, they are required to cooperate.
4. Required to recommend denial of approval where discretion is available in absence of funding to meet impact service needs.
5. Require minimum lead time.

Topic:

Energy and growth impacts on families

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can we assure that human service and economic needs are planned for and implemented in energy-impacted communities through municipal, industrial and educational commitment?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Communities must be fully educated about the possible effects of an energy project, must have time and expertise to plan for it, and access to funding to implement plans to meet projected human service and economic needs.

Program Recommendations:

The state government shall require energy industries to work cooperately with communities and fully disclose all possible effects of energy projects; the state government shall provide technical assistance (Department of Local Affairs in Colorado) to local governments to plan for human service and economic needs and shall fund the programs (in Colorado, Impact Assistance Office) through increased severance taxes.

Topic:

Energy and growth impacts on families

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can we assure that human services needs are planned for and implemented in growth communities?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

To insure a quality of life and a sense of community, Coloradans needs adequate and timely federal and state monies, local input, planners and grant persons, industrial financial assistance and increased Colorado severance taxes to guarantee human services.

Program Recommendations:

To provide social equity for vulnerable local people, those programs to be administered through flexible federal, state and local policies.

Strategy Recommendations:

Communities shall develop a "Human Needs Assessment" to be incorporated into a joint federal, state and local review process that could withhold, penalize or withdraw permits if human service needs are not met.

Topic:

Preventive health support programs

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

What kind of preventive health system can be developed that would be responsive to the following needs: mental health, nutrition, parent education, schools, research and community?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State XXX Federal ___ All of These

Policy Recommendations:

The Federal government shall mandate the provision of health education as part of a total education program.

Program Recommendations:

To implement a program of mandatory health education. The law will include consideration of re-certification of health education personnel (requirements), basic teacher education requirements, curriculum development, funding methods, and evaluation process.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can a philosophy of all-encompassing health care contribute to preventive health?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

It shall be the policy that greater emphasis be placed on all-encompassing preventive health care services, resources and education.

Program Recommendations:

1. Education for adolescents regarding sexuality in school and on television
2. Teaching professionals in all-encompassing preventive health care at both pre-service and in-service levels
3. Nutrition education programs to promote and maintain wellness
4. Responsible media practices

Strategy Recommendations:

1. To educate and develop community groups to press for an all-encompassing preventive health care program
2. Contact local, state and Federal officials to advocate for all-encompassing health care programs
3. Encourage Federal grants to include preventive health and human service provider education

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

In what way can programs and facilities be utilized in prevention of unplanned pregnancies?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Comprehensive health services including mental health, medical, family planning, education and health promotion should be made available to assist in the prevention of unplanned pregnancies.

Program Recommendations:

Tax incentives should be provided for voluntary family life planning educational programs to include an emphasis on the adolescent and pre-adolescent with parental involvement.

Strategy Recommendations:

In order to promote implementation of this program, we need to solicit support from the following:

1. Board of Education
2. Teachers, counselors, PTA, nurses
3. Public Health
4. Churches
5. Congressmen
6. Parents

Topic:

Communication between parents and children

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can family education programs be developed to teach communication and parenting skills so that areas of conflict and crisis can be handled effectively?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Government and non-governmental services should encourage and support the growth and development of parenting and family communication skills programs.

Program Recommendations:

The formation of community family councils should be encouraged. The councils will serve in an advisory role in the development of family education programs.

Public schools, kindergarten through the twelfth grade, should include family life education programs, developed with parent input.

Government and non-governmental services (including media, community programs, churches, adult education agencies, etc.) should be encouraged to develop family education programs directed toward all family members.

Strategy Recommendations:

Institute incentives to encourage community groups to establish family communication programs.

Institute tested parenting education curriculums in high schools immediately.

Establish advisory councils composed of parents and involved students for input in developing family education curriculums at all levels.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - How can we address the need to establish ongoing educational programs and support groups in parenting and communications skills for pre-parent age groups, families, and parents with children of all ages, with emphasis on birth through teenage?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

1. Importance of family as a whole working together
2. Ongoing parenting education classes beginning with birth through adult education
3. Help for hurting families readily available for all incomes
4. Systematic dissemination of information
5. Training for parent educators, communication skills and support groups
6. Community council can include schools, churches and clinics to educate families in parenting skills
7. Emphasize the need for responsible programming on television

Program Recommendations:

1. Workshops for entire school on parenting and communication skills
2. Public service spots on family values and parenting functions
3. More time off from work for family

4. Media - pamphlets, television (communication skills, parent information), radio, directories
5. Community council on family skills for both public and private
6. National family communication day or week

Strategy Recommendations:

Industry supports family togetherness - aware of need to have time off for family activities.

Systematic dissemination of information - can be done in an understandable form via books, television and radio.

Congress people by letters.

Local level - contact community leaders and agencies, educators, churches and schools.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can we establish ongoing programs in parenting education to facilitate better communication among family members?
Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Parenting education should be ongoing from early childhood.

Program Recommendations:

In the absence of private sector provision of programs, the Department of Education shall be charged with coordinating, funding and promoting programs, but the development of such programs and materials shall be done at the local level to meet local needs with maximum feasible participation by providers (i.e., parents, teachers, caretakers, foster parents, etc.) and groups to be served by the program in their development and implementation.

Strategy Recommendations:

Establish and promote parenting programs, at all levels, through:

a. Teacher certification
b. Media
c. Government-subsidized programs
d. Hospitals
e. Places of employment (on the job)
f. Schools
g. Day care centers
h. Marriage license bureaus
i. Professionals (e.g., lawyers, physicians, etc.)
j. Adult education

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can effective communication be developed and fostered between parents and children?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Local, state and Federal government should recognize the critical importance of good communication skills between parents and children.

Program Recommendations:

Make educational programs available for parents and children in communication skills, at local, state and Federal government levels.

Strategy Recommendations:

Suggested program to implement this instruction could be public or private educational television, better preparation for teaching communication skills in schools, and court requirements for parents with children that are having behavior problems.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can we develop programs in parenting education and communication skills for adults and children in order to establish parenting as the number one priority in our society?
Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal ___ All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Programs in parenting education and communication skills for adults and children must be developed.

Program Recommendations:
1. Develop school curricula which include parenting and family communication skills.
2. Encourage churches to teach parenting skills.
3. Encourage the private sector to teach parenting skills.
4. Government incentives to encourage businesses to recognize family needs.
5. Encourage media to place emphasis on family and educate people to family resources.
6. Hospitals should send parenting resources home with new parents.
7. Encourage government, at all levels, involved in human services to promote parenting education and family communication.
8. Make public schools available for parenting and communication skills.

Strategy Recommendations:

Support state legislation which requires parenting education and communication skills for kindergarten through twelfth grade, and provide that teacher certification must include training in parenting education and communication skills, and encourage school districts to make school buildings available for ongoing classes in parenting education and communication skills.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

What is the optimum relationship between community services (church, school, social services, government, etc.), neighborhoods and families in reinforcing family support systems?
Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Government should provide information and support of services established at the Federal, state and local levels, allowing the fmaily a choice to use these services.

Program Recommendations:

Local community programs should be created which coordinate existing agencies and disseminate information about those services.

County/community government (local people involvement) identify all avenues for implementation of program through ideas such as:

--human services catalog
--television and radio and newspapers
--family/neighborhood activities

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Establish a catalog of services.
2. Go to city council with requests for information.
3. Families must become active in their community.
4. Government could provide a tax break for volunteers' time spent working in community programs. After all, church donations are tax deductible.

Topic:

Equal employment, education, and social opportunities

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

In what ways can all individuals in families be assured of their right to equal employment, education and social opportunities?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

It should be the policy of all levels of government to develop and implement the equal education, employment and social opportunities within the limits of the Constitution of the United States.

Program Recommendations:

All levels of government, after assuring equal opportunities within their own sphere of education and employment, will encourage the private sector to also do so, through an information program.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Congress will pass laws to include themselves under VII of the Civil Rights Act, 1964, and EEOA.
2. Mandate alternative forms of job scheduling within government and encourage the private sector to do so also.
3. Add youth and elderly to Civil Rights laws at the state, local and Federal levels.
4. Pass laws to allow welfare recipients to obtain employment and have services gradually phased out as they become economically independent.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

In what ways can the individuals in families be assured of their right to equal employment, education and social opportunities?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

All individuals, regardless of race, religion, sex, handicap, age, and marital status should be assured through various policies, funded programs and enforcement procedures, equal access to employment, education and social opportunity.

Program Recommendations:

Enforcement of Titles 6, 7 and 9 and Civil Rights Statute should be more rigidly enforced. Penalize non-compliers and offer incentive to compliers.

Strategy Recommendations:

We need programs for matching each person's skills with a job where they can earn a living. Through public education programs, vocational and occupational training should be elevated to equal social status. Make the public more aware of Titles 6, 7 and 9 and state statute.

Increase the level of funding and efficiency of enforcement agencies for Titles 6, 7 and 9 and state statute.

Provide documentation of the effect of employment on welfare rolls.

Topic:

Family involvement in school policies

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How much and how can families (parents and students) become involved and determine school policies?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Decisions in the system must be made at the lowest possible level.

Parents and students should be formally involved in making certain decisions at the building level.

Permissive legislation to allow School Boards to delegate authority to the building level in select areas.

Program Recommendations:

School Boards should define areas of decision making appropriate for family involvement at the building level

--staffing
--incentive program monies
--building goals
--accountability/evaluation
--budget
--appropriate communication networks
  Parent Handbook
  district level
  building level

CONTINUED ON ATTACHED SHEET

Strategy Recommendations:

Parent groups need to work with educators' groups to implement shared decision making.

Programs formulated to insure parent/educator cooperation.

Issue: How much and how can families (parents and students) become involved and determine school policies?

Program Recommendations (continued from first page):

Parent Handbook
--discipline policy
--textbook selection process
--school- and district-level selection process
--philosophy
--curriculum
--rules
  a. emergency b. daily
--special services

District-level publication outlining policies

Monthly building-level newsletter addressing more specific issues under consideration.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can families with children have effective input into curriculum development including the teaching of moral values and sex education; what policies can be made to re-emphasize responsibility of the family?

Issue Relates To: XXX Local ___ State ___ Federal ___ All of These

Policy Recommendations:

School Board mandates that curriculum will be developed by a committee comprised of interested families (at least 50%), teachers, school personnel, and School Board members, and provide the necessary funds to implement this policy.

Program Recommendations:

Individual schools would form Parent Advisory Councils to feed into district curriculum policy committee.

Strategy Recommendations:

Publicize and hold open hearings to discuss curricula and to elect representatives to the school advisory council.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY

How can families be involved in the policy-making process in their schools?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal ?__ All of These

Policy Recommendations:

1. Have School Board provide for educating parents and community members about their existing power, rights and responsibilities.
2. School/community activity scheduling be done at building level with parents.
3. Use terminology which non-educators will understand.
4. Re-establish Neighborhood Schools.
5. Improve communication between schools (local and district) and parents.

Program Recommendations:

1. The state government shall require the district to distribute to parents, community members and school staff an educational packet that informs them of their power, rights and responsibilites.
2. Offer classes for parent awareness.
3. Publicize in newspapers.
4. School districts should be encouraged to develop a curriculum involving community awareness as part of the Civic Education program.

Strategy Recommendations:

Parents, wearing buttons that say "Ask Me About Parent Power," have a small group get together with school administrators and staff to urge communications with elected officials regarding support for Program Recommendations.

Topic:

Domestic violence

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY - How can the widespread incidents of domestic violence be reduced or eliminated and how can programs for pre-natal and post-natal awareness of potential child abuse problems and solutions be a routine part of pre- and post-natal education and childhood education?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Government and non-governmental agencies should be involved to reduce the incidents of domestic violence.

Program Recommendations:

To provide funding for all family life and parenting education and (to assist parents in more effective non-violent child rearing practices) in the public schools and the community for children and adults on issues of domestic violence.

Strategy Recommendations:

Get School Board to assure proper curriculum in public schools as related to family life and parenting education and utilize expertise of existing educational resources for continued development of community education.

Topic:

Domestic violence

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Issue:

How can the widespread incidence of domestic violence be reduced or eliminated?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:
Identify the causes of domestic violence with a view toward improving programs.

Program Recommendations:

To provide funds to local communities for programs on domestic violence, e.g., data collection (research on victims and non-violent families), community awareness program, crisis phone lines, shelters, relationship of drugs and alcohol use/abuse to domestic violence, training programs for police, attorneys, other professionals, and programs for rural areas to have mobile units to provide assistance to isolated women.

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY
What is the cause of domestic violence and how can the widespread incidence of abuse or violence of all ages be reduced or eliminated?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:
There needs to be government funding and tax incentives for private funding and legislation to inform the public (and provide programs for education and treatment of victims and perpetrators).

Program Recommendations:

An extensive multi-media campaign to inform and educate the public about domestic violence and resources and alternatives available within local communities.

Strategy Recommendations:
Develop task forces and speakers bureaus to train personnel to do public speaking as a means of spreading public awareness (lobby for the passage of legislation which provides direct services to families of violence).

These direct services include: a) increased child protection staff, b) establishment of safehouses, c) development of family crisis teams in law enforcement, d) victim/witness assistance programs, e) development of more effective and extensive programs for the abuser, and f) mandatory family life education within the public schools.

Special Interest Group

Topic:

Issue: FIRST PRIORITY
Who has responsibility for family welfare, and how helpful has government intervention been?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Responsibility for family welfare lies with God through Divine Order. The Divine Order is: 1) Father, 2) mother, 3) extended family, 4) church, and 5) charity. The government role with the family is only in the area of statutorily prohibited criminal behavior and to defend the country from its enemies.

Program Recommendations:

Government intervention should be eliminated through the use of sunset laws to eliminate agencies such as Health and Human Resources and Education and their regulations. Federal constitutional amendments should be passed to reverse U.S. Supreme Court decisions permitting forced busing, abortion, and prohibiting school prayer.

Strategy Recommendations:

Both elect sympathetic legislators and representatives to government and write these and other legislators to advise them to support the results of this meeting.

Also, support advocacy groups, lobbyists, and institutions such as churches in working toward these goals, with particular support from the media.

Topic:

Divorce

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

How can we ease the pain of divorce in all aspects of family life?

Topic:

Single-parent families

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

(How) can an education program be developed to inform the citizen and public organizations of the role of one-parent families in our society?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

The Congress shall pass legislation to mandate and fund the Office of Education to develop and disseminate informational resources concerning the needs and roles of the one-parent family.

Program Recommendations:

The Office of Education shall provide training programs for public school systems

in understanding and working with one-parent families. The Office of Education, utilizing mass media and adult education programs, shall inform the public about the one-parent family.

Strategy Recommendations:

Utilize the one-parent family to inform the general public and specifically the public school system about the one-parent family.

Organize groups of one-parent families to advocate our needs through legislative activity.

Topic:

Unmet/changing needs in human services

Issues: SECOND PRIORITY

1. How can the public and private sectors develop policies and programs that enhance family life rather than weaken it?

2. How can human services be used to strengthen families?

3. How can quality day care be provided at a reasonable cost?

Topic:

Energy and growth impacts

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

What policies can the government at all levels design and implement to insure an adequate, safe and affordable energy supply through energy conservation and the efficient production and use of energy?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Conservation and efficiency shall be adopted as a top priority for additional energy sources, and the public will be educated and offered incentives to conserve energy and to produce and use energy more efficiently.

Program Recommendations:

For three years, the federal, state and local governments shall cooperate to educate the public and industry about the need and ways to conserve energy and produce and use it more efficiently; and then shall require conservation and efficiency in buildings, transportation, manufacture, and agriculture, and provide subsidies where appropriate.

Topic:

Preventive health support programs

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

How can we reduce the cost of health care services?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

It should be our goal to provide affordable, quality health care to people of all incomes.

Program Recommendations:

1. Consolidate and coordinate health care services to eliminate duplication and gaps in health care facilities, equipment and services.

2. Viable accountability to cost effective commissions on programs.

3. Promote health maintenance organizations (HMO's).

4. Increase non-physician health care providers, nurse practitioners, P.A.'s, and encourage third-party payment for same.

Topic:

Preventive health support programs

Issues: SECOND PRIORITY

1. How can we provide education and motivation to improve nutritional status, including professional education, government policy, availability of nutritious foods in schools and appropriate advertising?

2. What tax dollars should be spent for preventive health programs?

Topic:

Communication between parents and children

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

What programs can be developed to encourage family communication and family togetherness?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Policy Recommendations:

Government should provide support for, and an atmosphere in which, family communications and togetherness are enhanced.

Program Recommendations:

1. More flexibility in working situations for working parents.

2. Seek and elect local, state and federal officials who support family togetherness.

3. Solicit support from School Boards.

4. Involve entire family in the political process.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Four day work week promoted to allow family to get together.

2. Tax write-off for family visitations.

3. Tax write-off for family recreation facilities.

4. Funding for media programs locally produced (education for drug abuse and responsible attitude toward sex).

Topic:

Communication between parents and children

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

In what ways can parents be involved in their children's decisions to obtain counseling, contraceptive information, or abortion?

Topic:

Equal employment, education, and social opportunities

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

How would the Equal Rights Amendment affect the family?

Topic:

Equal employment, education, and social opportunities

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

Family Definition - areas of concern #35, #36, #48

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

Topic:

Family involvement in school policies

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

How can we develop a process to encourage parents to be more responsible for their child's education?

Topic:

Domestic violence

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

How can the American people and government continue to underfund programs for intervention, treatment and prevention of wife battering and child abuse?

Topic:

Domestic violence

Issue: SECOND PRIORITY

What should be the government's role in Domestic Violence in terms of funding and legislation?

Issue Relates To: ___ Local ___ State ___ Federal XXX All of These

GUAM

Topic: Social Services

Issue:

The Guam Medicaid Program receives an annual federal appropriation of $900,000. Program expenditure is presently in the $3 million bracket annually for medicaid.

Policy Recommendations:

Tha Guam be allotted a sufficient amount. The present appropriation of $900,000 is not sufficient.

Issue:

Title XX program funds are used to provide supportive service to families. Guam is presently allowed up to $500,000 annually if the other states do not use their entire allotments.

Policy Recommendations:

That Guam be allotted a definite amount annually by congressional action.

Issue: Guam families receive substantially less federal assistance than their mainland counterparts, specifically in public assistance programs. Guam's public assistance program such as AFDC, AB, OAA, APTD receive an annual appropriation of $1.1 million dollars. The programs expenditures are presently in the $4 million bracket. The local government is matching these programs with $3 local dollars for every $1 federal dollar. The mainland states are not limimted to a ceiling and are matched on 50-50% basis.

Policy Recommendations:

That Guam families be treated the same as mainland families in federal assistance payment.

Topic: Marriage

Issue:

How can help in understanding the responsibilities of marriage be provided to persons considering marriage?

Policy Recommendations:

Waiting period and requirements should be mandated for obtaining a marriage license (as age, physical examination).

Issue:

How can support be provided to marriages experiencing problems?

Policy Recommendations:

Family unity counseling should be available to any family, not just low income family.

Topic: Marriage

Issue:

How can effects to children be minimized from the rapidly increasing number of divorces?

Topic: Parenting

Issue:

How can young people be taught responsibilities of parenthood, in advance?

Issue:

How can responsible parenting be encouraged?

Topic: Parenting

Issue:

How can difference in educational level between parent and child be minimized?

Topic: Family Crisis

Issue:

How can families with a unity handicap be strengthened?

Issue:

How can rate of juvenile delinquency be reduced?

Issue:

How can rate of adolescent pregnancy be reduced?

Topic: Law and the Family

Issue:

Why must legalities be required for decisions that used to be made within the family? (E.g., upbringing a child by persons other than natural parents now requres court action.)

Issue:

In what ways can family discipline be strengthened, rather than be replaced by the courts? By schools?

Issue:

Does enactment of the youth curfew strengthen family discipline?

Topic: Families and Education

Issue:

In what ways can curriculum in public schools support the family?

Issue:

In what ways can school administrative policies support the family?

Issue:

How can home/parent/school parthnership be strengthened?

Topic: Families and the Work Place

Issue:

How can effect from unemployment of family wage earner be minimized?

Policy Recommendations:

Unemployment insurance legislation could be initiated for Guam.

Issue:

How can the effect of working mothers on family unity be minimized?

Issue:

How can the effect of inflation on the cost of family essentials be minimized?

Topic: Families and Housing

Issue:

How can family relocation be prevented in government financed family housing?

Issue:

How can FHA building code requirements be made flexible to meet needs of families living in tropical Guam?

Issue:

How can neighborhood family recreation programs be encouraged?

Topic: The Media

Issue:

Can the many consumer choices portrayed on television be limited?

Issue:

The violence portrayed in televeision and premium movies is in opposition to traditional family values. How can this reconciled?

HAWAII

Topic: EDUCATION

Issue: How can the public education system better prepare students for adult family roles ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. The federal Department of Education should assist States in providing a required Family Life Education curriculum for K - 12 grades. 2. Federal and State governments should promote and support access to and training in basic educational skills with students required to reach satisfactory levels of competency in those skills. 3. Federal DOE should require all college freshman to take a course in " Parenting, Sex, and Marriage. "

Program Recommendations: 1. Parenting/child development and behavior should be part of Family Life curriculum including child care field experiance, possibly using infants and children of high school teenage parents. 2. Programs in parenting education should be developed for each grade level. 3. consolidate under Fed. DOE training programs that will bring together programs to teach basic skills. 4. Basic skills testing regularly administered to evaluate student progress compared on national basis.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Concerned individuals and involve organizations should inform the public of research and conference findings, explain the recommendations and write to their Congressmen. 2. Conference follow-up staff should communicate the recommendations to and urge support from : Key government officials including the Board of Education and Department of Education. Legislators should be requested to sponsor legislation and actively lobby for the enactment of such legislation.

3. Conferences should be held to establish national basic skill standards.
4. Fed. DOE should insure that program of information and education for parents and guardians be provided about the importance of children acquiring basic skills for future needs.

Issue: How can the educational system better support families by providing individualized education to meet the needs of all students ?

Policy Recommendations: The Federal Department of Education should establish policies;

1. for early detection of learning and behavioral difficulties to insure immediate response to their needs. 2. Promote and support establishment of alternative education programs and special motivation classes to meet needs of alienated students. 3. For basic education for the practical issues of modern life. 4. For parent participation in educational process 5. For direct communication with citizens re. education

Program Recommendations:

1. Services for learning/behavioral difficulties to be mandated at elementary level include: Specialized interdisciplinary teams of diagnosticians, specialized resource teams of outreach professionals, adequate remedial programs, training programs for certification of classroom teachers in early detection. 2. Insure necessary categorical Fed. and State funding to systematically develop alternative education programs. MORE ON BACK

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference follow-up committe communicate key recommendations to and urge support from key government officials, legislators, Parent-Teacher groups, Teacher unions, and others. Follow-up staff should maintain laison with Comprehensive School Alienation Program of Compensatory Education, & DOE. Fed. & State legislation should be enacted to provide adequate categorical funding.

Issue: How can community education be expanded to provide accessible information and skills training to adult family members and others who care for children in order to strenghthen the family ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Information on early childhood, child development and family life skills made more accessible to parents/child care givers. 2. Adult Ed. classes should be made available to all. 3. Fed. Govn't. should institute a Parental Services Division 4. Federal govn't poverty programs which deal with early childhood intervention should focus on a child's home.

Program Recommendations: 1. Fed. Govn't to provide funds for advertising of location of child care information and programs. 2. Community groups encouraged to organize and develop post-partum parenting classes. 3. School facilities/resources open to the entire family on 12 month basis. 4. Expand existing federal early childhood poverty intervention programs. 5. Expand existing fed./state early childhood poverty programs giving preference to adolescent parents, first time parents, single parents.

Strategy Recommendations:

Concerned individuals are urged to write their Congressmen or Senators.

Conference recommendations and research should be explainde to parents, teachers, public.

Conference follow-up staff should contact key government leaders to inform them of conference findings and explain the recommendations.

Issue: **What services and/or policies should be instituted to lessen the incidence of family violence? (Child Abuse, Spouse Abuse, Sex Abuse.)**

Policy Recommendations.

Federal and State:

1) **It should be the policy of the federal and state governments to develop broad supportive family and child services to help prevent abuse and neglect before it occurs.**

2) **It should be the policy of the federal and state government to end the mistreatment of children in public care.**

Federal:

1) **It should be the policy of the federal government to adequately, and on a long term basis, fund the National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect to enable the Center to carry out the broad charge in its mandate.**

2) **It should be the policy of the federal government to insure that quality research is done in order to discover the causes, effects, successful treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect.**

3) **It should be the policy of the federal government to establish useful definitions of Child Abuse and Neglect for use in research, legal intervention and casework.**

4) **It should be the policy of federal government to encourage law changed at all levels which identify families in need of services to reduce abuse.**

5) **It should be the policy of the federal government to support and coordinate the efforts of the public and private programs in CA/N to maximize their impact and minimize duplication of efforts.**

6) LEAA or other appropriate department to allocate funding for pilot projects in selected cities/counties of varying populations throughout the United States addressing family crisis intervention.

7.) It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage educational system to provide parenting education in grades K- 12 and college which will encourage more informed decisions and skills.

State/Local:

1) It should be the state policy to encourage the formation of a state plan integrating private and public serv ices and identifying service gaps utilizing members of the State Countil for the Prevention of Child Abuse, and Spouse and Child Abuse Coalition.

2) There should be a policy to allow police to bring a person in on preponderence of evidence that child abuse, sex abuse has occured.

3) It should be police policy to encourage linkage of high risk families to available services to reduce stress and increase coping skills.

4) It should be the policy of the state to support and protect children in public and private care programs.

5) It should be the state policy to encourage a statewise network of shelters.

6) It should be the policy of the state government to provide, or to see that adequate services to treat and prevent spouse abuse are available.

Program Recommendations.

Federal and State:

1) Develop national and state plans with public and private programs in CA/N to coordinate the planning and delivery of programs and services in prevention and treatment.

2) Develop federal and state statutes to promote and support services for families and children in health, education and social services.

Federal:

1) Amend public Law 95-266 to provide adequate appropriations to carry out its functions.

2) The federal government through the National Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect should develop a national plan for the prevention and treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect.

3) The U.S. Supreme Court should reconsider its ruling permitting Corporal Punishment in the schools.

4) The Federal government should develop operational definitions on CA/N.

5) Implement a comprehensive sequential education program (grades K-12) dealing in family living/education under the sponsorship of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) in cooperation with the National Education Association (NEA).

6) Establish policies and develop prevention, educational and treatment programs. Department responsibility to create a comprehensive approach addressing all ages (birth to death.)

7) Implement an Early Identification program in all hospitals of all births focusing on parent-child bonding relationship(s) and referral system to appropriate agencies for follow-up and treatment.

8) Develop a training program for medical personnel for utilization of early identification instrument(s) in regard to identifying potential child-abuse.

9 Create a specialized interdisciplinary crisis team within or attached to local police department(s) who would respond to domestic family crisis with police, conduct immediate crisis intervention, and referral for follow-up to other agencies if deemed appropriate.

State and Local:

1) The state government should develop a state plan for the prevention and treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect.

2) The state government should review its position permitting Corporal Punishment in the schools.

3) Ensure that all children residing in state funded facilities or participating in state funded programs are receiving proper care and treatment.

4) Police should be mandated to report abuse to DSSH(CPSC). (Presently in force in Hawaii.)

5) Police should be mandate to report domestic calls to DSSH who can then investigate need for services in families which frequently come to the attention of police.

6) There should be training for administration and supervisors on policy formation and enforcement of policy.

7) Funding for shelters should be provided by allocating a set percentage of (or $5 addition to) marriage license fee. (See Florida state law which requires $5 of each fee go directly to provision of shelter services.)

8) State should develop and support a state level coordinating committee on CA?N with public and private sector representation to strengthen State's efforts to prevent and treat CA/N.

9) Amend law to allow police to bring a person in on preponderance of evidence vs proof beyond a reasonable doubt that child abuse or neglect has occurred.

10) Mandate police to report domestic calls to DSSH for possible follow-up to families with high incidence.

11) Train police/ministers/teachers/nurses to increase awareness/sensitivity resources: Their role in prevention.

12) Increase present statewide secondary prevention services which identify high risk families pre-natally or at birth. Extend outreach to rural areas where services are negligible.

13) Offer parenting and family life education experiences to grades K - 12.

14) Mother/infant bonding assessment and outreach to all new moms.

15) Specialized services to high risk target groups; teenage parents, handicapped children, etc.

16) Greater medical insurance coverage for mental health services.

17) Parents Anonymous should be initiated in Hawaii as a self-help effort to reduce abuse and promote positive parenting skills.

Strategy Recommendations.

Federal and State:

None

Federal:

1) Concerned individuals are urged to write to their Congressmen and Senators to express their views and to urge appropriate legislation.

2) Concerned individuals should contact the National Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect for a status report and input into the national plan.

3) Concerned individuals should mobilize their efforts to urge the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider their opinion regarding Corporal Punishment in the schools.

State/Local:

1) Concerned individuals should contact state leaders on child abuse and neglect for a status report and input into the state plan.

2) Concerned individuals should work with state legislators, the state Department of Education to amend state policy.

3) Concerned individuals should develop a mechanism to establish an independent review of programs and facilities servicing children to assess standards of care and treatment in order to prevent child abuse and neglect.

4) Conference follow-up staff should contact appropriate governmental leaders to inform them of Conference findings and explain the recommendations.

5) Concerned individuals should contact their state legislators and key government officials to urge the drafting of appropriate legislation.

6) Conference follow-up staff should participate in such activity and work with appropriate state agencies to implement legislation.

Topic: FAMILY CRISIS

Issue: In what ways can society provide supports for parents and children during and after divorce ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of the Family Court to encourage joint/shared custody of the children in a divorce. 2. It should be the policy of Family Court to require all divorcing parents and their children in contested cases to participate in counseling prior to custody decision. 3. FAmily Court should encourage all divorcing

parents and their children to participate in educational/counseling sessions. 4. Public and Private schools should provide peer counseling groups in all schools.

Program Recommendations:

1. Amend laws dealing with custody to promote joint custody if in best interests of child.
2. Identify existing educational/counseling programs and establish new programs with trained counselors , at accessible locations and times, appropriate for different cultural and ethnic groups.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Present to public an educational forum on the effects of divorce on children and the ways to prevent or mitigate immediate and long-term difficulties. 2. Discuss with Family Law Committee of State Bar Association the need to change the adversarial nature of custody proceedings. 3. Concerned people should contact legislators to emphasiz need for law changes and appropriate funding.

Issue: In what ways can the State provide adequate facilities and services for troubled youth in need of supervised placement ?

Policy Recommendations: The Federal and State governments should plan for, deploy existing funds and / or appropriate new funds for the establishment of adequate youth facilities and services which would provide emergency, short-term, intermediate and long term care.

Program Recommendations: 1. Identify the particular placement needs of each county and the adequacy of current services. 2. Develop a coordinated program of assessment for placement of juveniles held in detention homes or county jails, who are status offenders with history of law violation. 3. Provide guidance/counseling to facilitate return of youth to home or suitable alternative 4. Develop additional facilities as needed.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Convene meeting of concerned individuals to survey needs and formulate plan of action.
2. Enact Federal and State legislation to include the appropriation of categorical funds for group youth shelters in the State budget.

Topic: CHILD CARE

Issue: In what ways can high quality, low cost, day care be made more available to parents of young children ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage day care at all levels and of all types in the private sector by providing tax crdits to businesses which provide day care for employee's children and also to care centers established as businesses. 2. DOE mandated to provide quality before/after school care on all elementary school campuses. 3. Fed. and State govn't should assist parents in locating child care services and child care information.

Program Recommendations:

1. The internal revenue code should be amended to encourage provision of day care.
2. Individual School systems should be urged to operate supervised before/after school care.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Legislators should be informed of the need for appropriate resolutions and legislation to provide adequate child care facilities.

2. Businesses should be contacted to discuss the recommendations from WHCF.

3. Concerned citizens should write to their congressmen.

Topic: FAMILIES AND THE WORKPLACE

Issue: In what ways can industry, government, and private agencies promote family life by changing conditions of employment ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Flexi-time, shared time, part-time, and release work options should be available to employees of Industry, Labor, Federal, State, and Municipal Governments, and Private Agencies.

Program Recommendations: 1. Amend collective bargaining agreement where applicable and amend production schedules of industry and business. 2. Change civil service and other service & personnel policies of federal, state, and municipal governments, e. g., section 12 of Title 20 or the U. S. code. 3. Change personnel and service policies of private agencies.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Write to leaders of business/industry, such as U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Nat'l Ass. of Manufacturers, etc. 2. Write to federal, state, municipal legislators and council members, governors and mayors. 3. Write to Nat'l offices of private agencies. 4. Gather and disseminate information regarding productivity, absentee work force stability, stress implications to all informations.

Topic: HOUSING

Issue: In what ways can families be kept together and strenghthened through Housing ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It shall be the policy of federal, state, and municipal governments to provide adequate, available, and affordable rental and purchase housing through the planning and development of urban and rural communities.

Program Recommendations: 1. Direct federal, state, and local governments to legislate zoning and density laws which mandate available rental and purchase housing. 2. Urge national congress to redirect the philosophy of the Public Housing Law of 1949 so that concentration is one more on building low cost rental housing. 3. Enact legislation at all levels against speculation in housing, " red-lining", blockbusting, & discrimination.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Write to federal and state legislators and councilmen.

2. Confer with construction industry, building and construction trade union, and financial institutions following adoption of conference decisions.

Topic: taxation

Issue: In what ways can taxation at the federal, state, and municipal levels be changed to encourage families to remain together and to strengthen families.

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of federal, state, and municipal governments to offer incentives in the tax systems for parents to remain at home with their children or to place children in day care centers. It should also allow for children to care for their elderly parents in the home.

Program Recommendations: 1. Amend the federal internal revenue code and state tax systems for equal treatment of single and married. 2. Amend the Social Security Act to provide equal treatment of women to provide adequate financial security. 3. Amend federal and state tax systems to provide additional incentives for children who support parents in homes rather than institutions.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Write to federal and state legislators to make changes in the tax systems and to federal legislators to make changes in the Social Security Act. 2. Write to federal legislators for changes in the Older American Act to provice incentives for children to keep parents in home. 3. Discuss problems of parents and children with state welfare departments, commissions on ageing and commissions of children and youth about ways in which changes can be made while ammendments in laws are being considered.

Topic: HEALTH

Issue: In what ways can public health education about birth control and pregnancy be provided effectively to families?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be policy of the federal DOE that reproductive health education sufficient to enable people to make informed reproductive decisions be included in all schools. 2. It should be policy of the federal Broadcasting Commission that public information regarding reproductive health not be excluded in the media. 3. State Health Departments should provide pre-natal and neo-natal information to all new mothers including breast feeding and infant interaction information.

Program Recommendations: 1. A specific accreditation program for teachers to train them in reproductive health education should be developed. 2. Services to provide pre-natal care from diagnosis thru birth and including parenting education should be initiated. 3. Federal funds to study etiology and prevention of adolescent pregnancy should be made available.

Strategy Recommendations:

Contact DOH and DOE about need for education and peer counseling for young people.

Write to congressman and Senators

Issue: In what ways can medical costs be lowered so that the physical health needs of all families are met?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of the federal government to provide quality health care services to everyone - to gap groups as well as welfare and wealthy.

Program Recommendations: Public Seminars

Drugs, How to order by mail, generic equivalents, price comparisons. Insurance, pro and con of cancer insurance, information of medical coverage for elderly. Ways to keep medical costs down. Tours of hospitals.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference follow-up committee should contact key health care leaders to inform them of conference findings and to discuss implementation of recommendations.

Issue: How can health care services and education be provided in ways that encourage families to become personally responsible for high levels of physical and mental wellness ?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Medical, dental, nutritional, and mental health education should be incorporated in pre-natal counseling and first five years of childs growth. 2. School curriculum should include education in good nutrition, good physical health, including information on substance abuse. 3. Public education campaigns should be initiated to promote wellness.

Program Recommendations: 1. Public Health Nurses should be utilized in all areas of education of families in home health care. 2. Available health services should be promoted in media. 3. Public education in inter-relatedness of substance abuse and other problems should be initiated. 4.Private organizations and service clubs should be encouraged to provide clinics to detect health problems.

Strategy Recommendations:

Communicate to Department of Health and Department of Education the need for preventative health programs and services.

Contact Private health related agencies to encourage prevention programs.

Topic: FAMILIES: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SPECIAL CHALLENGES

Issue: In what ways can newly arrived immigrant families be assisted toward facilitating their adjustment and enhancing family solidarity?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Concomitent with federal policy to permit foreign in-migration, there should be a national policy of commitment to ensure full assistance

to newly-arrived immigrant families. 2. There should be a state-local policy of commitment consistent with federal policy that the full range of necessary assistance will be rendered to newly-arrived immigrant families. 3. Federal government policy should be to provide full appropriation of funds for the provision of necessary programs (on back...)

Program Recommendations: 1. A statewide ad hoc committee should be established to inventory available and needed services. 2. A statewide coordinating-advisary body should be established to study the on-going needs for immigrant families, assist towards the development and promotion of needed programs and to maintain contact and coordination with federal officials. 3. A statewide service delivery agency should be established wherein comprehensive programs are implemented and services delivered from (on back...)

Strategy Recommendations: Conference followup staff should communicate the recommendations to and urge support from:

1. State's Congressional representatives; additionally request sponsorship of legislation.
2. Key governmental officials and community leaders.
3. State legislators; additionally request sponsorship of legislation.
4. The public and other specific individuals, agencies and organizations providing services to or are concerned about the issue.

Topic: FAMILIES: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SPECIAL CHALLENGES

Issue: What efforts can the state and private agencies undertake to provide services to handicapped children and youth and their families who are currently no being accomodated?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the Federal and State Governments to initiate, promote and implement programs which serve the special needs of the handicapped children, youth and their families.

Program Recommendations: 1. Develop an identification program from which a handicapped register can be made.

2. Coordinate the services of State, county, and private agencies for the handicapped.

Strategy Recommendations: Conduct needs assessment to determine nature and degree of service delivery to the handicapped and the State's effectiveness in coordination of planning and service delivery.

Issue: How can we end the fragmentation of family unity and continuity which has been brought on by the practice of most mental health clinics of isolating an individual member of the family as the target for diagnosis and treatment?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy and the function of community mental health clinics to study and describe (diagnose) the family and social interrelationships in which an individual becomes disabled followed by a treatment programs including all significant persons.

Program Recommendations: Conference recommended to HEW that a less restrictive and a more descriptive statistical procedure than is now possible under the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders now used universally by mental health clinics be instituted. and that this diagnostic and statistical procedure give full attention

to the curcial fact that mental and emotional disabilities evolve and are resolved in a social environment larger than the individual.

Strategy Recommendations: Conference followup staff should contact key governmental leaders to inform them of Conference findings and explain the recommendations.

Conference followup staff should contact the health and mental health departments and the mental health associations in the various states to inform them of the Conference findings, to explain the recommendations and to press for allocations of monies to permit the attendant expansion of services within the community.

Topic: FAMILIES: CHALLENGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CARE OF ELDERLY

Issue: What can the public and private sector do to decrease the Physical and emotional alienation of our elderly family members?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Greater federal support for families to keep older members at home so as to reduce unnecessary institutionalization of chronically ill elders. 2. Greater federal/state support to develop programs for single elders.

Program Recommendations: 1. Incentives and payment to families for care of elders at home. 2. Funding for respite services and day care, and other in-home support services to families. 3. Promote intergenerational programs, involving young and old. 4. Remove institutional bias in current health care payment structure. (Social Security Act), 5. Social Security guidelines should be amended to allow more flexibility in old age employment. This must include removing the penalty for working.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Need for multidisciplinary assessment of problems with vulnerable elderly (see articles in Parade of Sunday re: Abuse of elderly). 2. Work wiht DSSH regarding citizens input for policy changes to Social Security Act. 3. Conference follow-up staff should hold seminars and communicate this information to small and large businesses. 4. Business and all concerned citizens should communicate their feeling to state and federal representatives and Senators on these topics.

Issue: In what ways can a more flexible retirement philosophy be instituted in the United States?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Policies which require a long postponement of the age at which they become eligible for retirement should be rescinded. More options to "retire early" are needed. There should be an elimination of any age discrimination employment. 2. More "flexible retirement" guidelines are needed which will enable them to combine retirement benefits with wages, leisure with work.

Program Recommendations: 1. Social Security guidelines should be amended to allow more flexibility in old age employment. This must include removing the penalty for working.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Conference follow-up staff should hold seminars and communicate this information to small and large businesses. 2. Business and all concerned citizens should communicate their feelings to state and federal representatives and Senators on these topics. 3. Conference follow-up staff should communicate with the Joint

Council for Economic Education so that they can communciate with teachers. 4. Conference follow-up staff should communicate with service clubs to convey to them these findings. And urge them to assist in communicating these facts to the public. 5. Conference follow-up staff should communicate these findings with senior citizen groups.

Topic: FAMILIES AND MAJOR INSTITUTIONS

GOVERNMENT

Issue: In what ways should the government system change to allow for differences in family values and needs, and ensure that the affect of all legislation on families is examined prior to enactment.

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of the federal government to ensure that each i[illegible]f proposed federal legislation be scrutinized for its potential impact on families. 2. It should be the policy of the federal government to publish the results of such impact studies "to show how the proposed law or regulation will strengthen family unity and how it will weaken family unity." 3. It should be the policy of the federal government to ensure that the Congress, in adopting legislation, shall have in advance (on back...)

Program Recommendations: 1. Pass a public law directing HEW to expand the mission of the Office on Families to include the function of developing Family Impact Statements during the review committee phase of proposed federal legislation, and appropriate funds to support such expansion. 2. Amend State and local requirements for Environmental Impact Statements to include a required Human Impact study.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Relocate the Office of Families as an instrument of the Congress. 2. Office on Families to publish report(s) detailing examples of legislation already adopted which adversely impacts families, together with projections of how such impact will have been averted. 3. Concerned individuals request their Congressmen and Senators to attend to passage of Family Impact legislation. 4. Concerned professional societies contact their representatives in support of Family Impact legislation. 5. Family Conference follow-up staff contact key government leaders (federal, State and local) to inform them of conference findings and explain the recommendations. 6. Conference follow-up staff coordinate the advocacy activities of concerned professional societies. 7. Conference follow-up staff encourage widest possible publicity for the Family Impact Statement issue.

Issue: In what ways can public policy and programs strengthen and support the traditional family way of life?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of the White House Conference on Families to define family along traditional lines (father, mother, child). 2. It should be the policy of the WHCF to give priority to issues which impact on the family as a whole rather than issues which affect only one member of the family. 3. It should be the policy of the Federal Government to refrain from legislation where they set themselves up as pseudo-parents except where emergency circumstances warrant it. (on back...)

Program Recommendations: 1. The Office of Family (HEW) should identify forces which weaken the traditional family unit. They should also identify principles which provide healthy family environment through: a) A survey of the effects of happy family life on individual work production/productivity; b) survey of the affects of happy stable marriages on family life; c) investigating existing programs and services focused on affirming marriage and family life enrichment. 2. Government agencies should provide (on back...)

Strategy Recommendations: 1. WHCF conference report should stress strong family foundations are derived from good marriages. 2. Findings of the Office of the Family report should be made available to the public. 3. Local educational leaders should meet with parents to implement suggested programs. 4. Federal and local government officials should keep the public informed of policy affecting the family.

4. It should be the policy of the federal government to provide programs and services of an affirmative and preventive nature rather than "after the fact" therapeutic services.

self-help programs addressing marriage and parenting for use in schools, churches and social agencies. 3. Federal/state should provide financial support to employers that enrich marriage and family life. 4. The American United Fund should enlist the aid of and support of organizations that deal with affirmative prevention rather than prescriptive solutions. 5. Establish pre-marital and couples counseling programs in applying for marriage licenses.

Topic: FAMILIES AND MAJOR INSTITUTIONS

FAMILIES AND THE MEDIA

Issue: In what ways can the media put more focus on family unity?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of both the public and the private sector to produce information about the influence of commercial television on families.
2. It should be government policy to promote positive family values through advertising and programming.
3. Political candidates document and publish stands on family values.

Program Recommendations: 1. Screen ads and programs by a commission of representatives of business, family service agencies, government and religious organizations interested in promoting family values. 2. Other recommendations to be produced by those attending the WHCF in Los Angeles.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. All concerned individuals write their federal/state representatives. 2. Get endorsement and active promotion of large corporations to support family values in their commercials. 3. Send petitions and representatives to meetings of FCC advocating regulations for public service advertisement consistent with positive family values and ideals. 4. Set up an organization to approach all industries to join together to develop pro-family values. 5. Start a massive campaign to make TV stations and networks, and magazine companies aware of positive aspects of family life.

Topic: Children and Parents

Issue:

1. What changes or additions are needed in preparation for parenting? By whom? For whom? Under what conditions?
2. What changes or additions in policies or programs should be made to provide support to parents and children in child/parent relationships? By whom? For whom?
3. What methods or programs should be developed or increased to support or bring about responsible parenting? By whom? For whom?

Topic: Education

Issue:

1. What should be done to provide or increase quality education? By whom? For whom?
2. How should the cost of education be controlled and borne? By whom? For whom?
3. What can be done to enhance or establish better home-school relations? By whom? For whom?

Topic: Marriage

Issue:

1. What policies or programs should be changes or begun to provide better preparation for marriage? By whom? For whom?
2. What policies of the institutions of society should be changed or be added to provide support to marriage?
3. What improvements, additions, changes should be made legislatively and voluntarily for counseling, and therapy programs before or during marriage and at time of pending dissolution?

Topic: Family Crisis

Issue:

1. What policy or program changes are needed for families in which violence and abuse of family members occur?
2. What policy or program changes are needed or new ones instituted for adolescent pregnancy? By whom? For whom? Under what conditions?
3. What policy or program changes and innovations are needed to assist or support the displaced homemakers?

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Topic: Health

Issue:
1. What policy or program changes are needed to improve the availability, quality, and cost of health care?
2. What programs should be changed or instituted to provide or increase preventive health care? By whom? For whom?
3. What policy and program changes are needed in the control and treatment of drug and alcohol abuse? By whom? For whom?

Topic: Special Challenges to Families

Issue:
1. What changes and additions are needed in policy and programs to support the single parent? By whom? For whom?
2. What changes and additions are needed in policy and program to support the family in which a member has a catastrophic or terminal illness? By whom? For what and under what conditions?
3. What changes, additions are needed in policy and programs to support the family in which a member has handicapped conditions? By whom? For whom?

Topic: Care of the Elderly

Issue:
1. What policy or program changes or innovations are needed to enable the elderly to be a part of a family and/or assist families in caring for elderly? For whom? By whom?
2. What changes in law or public policies are needed to assist the elderly in such matters as fixed income, small savings, home ownership? For whom?
3. What changes or programs are needed by business, industry, and community institutions to assist the elderly or the family with an elderly person? For whom?

Topic: Child Care

Issue:
1. What policy and/or program changes or innovations are needed to make available quality child care? By whom? For whom? Under what conditions?
2. What can be done to increase the variety of choices in child care and to enable the parent or gaurdian to make wise selection from among available resources such as: in home family care, community sponsored, private sponsored and/or business, public sponsored, cooperative care? By whom? For whom? Under what conditions?

3. What policy or program changes or innovations are needed to control or assist parents in the cost of child care? By whom? For whom?

Topic: Government Policies Affecting Families

Issue:
1. What can government do about inflation and unemployment?
2. What policy or program changes are needed to provide an overall family perspective as public policy?
3. What alterations are needed in developing or delivery services or enacting public policy so that a sensitivity to families is incorporated?

Topic: Employment/Underemployment/Unemployment

Issue:
1. What requuirements should be made of able-bodied persons for employment as a part of welfare programs? For all persons? Certain persons excluded such as those needed for child care, elderly, or handicapped? Under what conditions?
2. What policy or program changes should be made or required to increase and reduce underemployment and unemployment? By whom? For whom?
3. What programs should be offered by private sector to improve employment opportunities? For whom?

TOPICS	ISSUES
11. Families and the Workplace	1. What part-time, full-time, flex-time arrangements should be made or required of whom in order to enable employment of single parents or persons responsible for handicapped or elderly? 2. What career planning changes or innovations should be provided, by whom and for whom? 3. What authorization should exist for maternity and/or paternity leave? Should it be legislative, negotiated, voluntary?
12. Tax Policy	1. What changes, exemptions, etc. should be made in the tax policy to support families? For all families? For specific family groups? 2. What exemptions should be made? For dependents? For handicapped? For elderly? For single parent families? For single head of household? 3. What changes in the child care deductions should be made? For what groups? Under what conditio
13. Families as Consumers	1. What should be done and by whom to monitor and regulate advertising so that it is beneficial to the consumer? 2. What changes, innovations should be made by

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	retailers to aid consumers? Legislatively? Voluntarily? 3. What legislative and/or voluntary changes or improvements should be made in establishing and/or the application of credit practice?
14. Housing	1. What can be done to control and/or assist in the cost of housing? By whom? For whom? 2. What can be done to assure availability of family housing? By whom? For whom? 3. What can be done to eliminate discrimination in securing housing? By whom?

TOPICS	ISSUES
15. Law	1. What changes are needed in child neglect and abuse? 2. What changes are needed in divorce/separation/ alimony? 3. What changes are needed in juvenile justice/ delinquency?
16. Financial Assistance	1. What welfare programs and welfare reforms are needed and by whom - State, Federal, or both? 2. What changes are needed in the Soical Security program? Supplementary income programs? Child welfare? Maternal and child health? 3. What child allowances should be provided? Income tax deductions or credits? College deductions & credits? Direct child allowance for each child under 16 or 18? Other?
17. Media	1. What policy or program changes are needed in radio TV? By whom? How? 2. What policy or program changes are needed in movies? By whom? How? 3. What policy or practices, changes in newspapers, magazines are needed? By whom? How?
18. Extended Family and Other Family Networks	1. What policy or program changes or innovations are needed to permit extended family members to assist or support the family such as in instances of child care, handicapped persons? 2. What policy or program innovations to allow and provide a means for other persons to substitute for non-existent or geographically separated family members - example, foster grandparents, etc.

TOPICS	ISSUES
19. Social Services	1. What changes are needed in policy or program to assure availability/accountability in services? 2. What changes are needed in the type, number and practices of persons in the helping professions? 3. What changes are needed in government funding such as Title XX?

20.	Transportation	1. What changes or additions are needed in transportation policies to enable families to travel comfortably and economically? 2. What changes or additions are needed in transportation to assist the elderly? 3. What changes or additions are needed in transportation policies or services to assist handicapped?
21.	Insurance and Pensions	1. What changes should be made in the Social Securi program? 2. What protections should be set up or required tc assure the soundness of insurance and pension programs? 3. What new or changed programs should be expedited or required of employers by legislation or volu effort?
22.	Business and Industry	1. What changes in practice should business and industry make to provide honest advertising? 2. What changes in practice should business and industry make in selection of TV and radio programs which they support? 3. What changes in policy or practices are needed t assist families in the care of their children and/or elderly?
23.	Community Institutions	1. What informal support can be developed to bolste a family? By whom? 2. What changes in program or innovations are needed in self-help groups? By whom? For whom? 3. What changes in policy or programs are needed in religious and cultural organizations?
	TOPICS	**ISSUES**
24.	Other (Respondents' Additions)	1.
25.	Philanthropy and Voluntary Sector	1. What changes are needed in policy or program to assure accessibility and accountability of service? 2. What changes in policy or programs are needed for delivery of services? 3. What changes are needed in methods for disseminating information about services?

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Topic:

Monetary and fiscal policy - Inflation and recession and their impact on the family.

Issue:

In what ways can the public and private sector work together to lessen the impact of recession on American families?

Policy Recommendations:

(1) A family impact statement should accompany all new fiscal policy proposals.
(2) The public and private sectors should formulate policies which lessen the financial burden on families caused by inflation or recession.
(3) The public and private sectors should promote the growth of productive capacity as a way to moderate inflation and recession.

Program Recommendations:

National economic policy should aim at a synthesis of actions that will help stabilize the economic conditions affecting the family.

Topic:

Monetary and fiscal policy - Inflation and recession as they affect the family.

Issue:

In what ways can the tax laws be altered to promote family life?

Policy Recommendations:

Tax legislation should promote the development of greater financial security for the family.

Program Recommendations:

(1) Public policy should provide lower and middle income families with incentives to save.
(2) Encourage the development of simplified and more easily understood tax forms.
(3) The tax code should be made more equitable (e.g. increased dependency allowances, elimination of loopholes at higher income brackets, elimination of tax rates which penalize married couples, etc.)

(4) Social Security laws should be reviewed to insure that they benefit the family.
(5) The impact of taxes on the small family farm or business should be a special concern.

Topic:

Economic well-being of the family - Economic education throughout life.

Issue:

In what ways should economic education be promoted throughout life?

Policy Recommendations:

(1) Emphasize and strengthen economic education in elementary school, high school, college, and extension services especially as it relates to the family.
(2) Encourage the participation of the private sector in economic education.
(3) Economic education should emphasize the value of savings, investment and the efficient use of family resources and not the instant satisfaction of all consumer wants.
(4) Economic education should also be taught through community agencies.

Program Recommendations:

(1) Develop guidelines for economic education programs for the family in which state agencies and the private sector can share.
(2) Encourage the private sector to develop programs in economic education.

Strategy Recommendations:

(1) Write your congressmen and senators.
(2) Contact the Office of the Family at HEW.
(3) Inform federal, state, local officials, and community agencies of the White House Conference findings and recommendations.
(4) Monitor the development of these economic education programs.

Topic:

~~Preparation for family life~~ - Social, Health and educational services for families which emphasize marriage and parenthood.

Issue a) In what ways should school systems supplement the work of parents, churches, and other community groups in the preparation of children and youth for family life?

Issue b) (I don't recall exact wording) What is the role of the legislature in dealing with the natural tension that exists between the rights of individuals to marry, and the responsibility of helping insure a healthy society?

(recommendations under this issue dealt with some requirements for preparation for marriage in some special cases and in relationship to divorce the encouragement of such things as "cooling off time" and the establishment of "Conciliation Courts"...)

Issue c) In what ways can social service agencies, members of the health profession and medical and child care institutions be encouraged and supported in providing the parents they serve with ongoing enrichment?

Topic:

Crisis Support Systems for Families.

Issue:

(1) The impact of mental illness on the family.
(2) The impact of nutrition on families.
(3) The impact of a handicap or disability on the family.

Policy Recommendations:
School systems should explore the possibility of providing formal life education classes in grades 1-12 and at higher educational levels. These courses should reflect the values of the local community.

Program Recommendations:

Development of curricula and guidelines for family life courses at all educational levels.

Policy Recommendations:

(1) Promote mental health services and good communication skills for the family which must deal with the mental illness of one of its members.
(2) Assure adequate nutrition for each person and insure support for families with a severe nutrition problem like diabetes, alcoholism, obesity, or allergies.
(3) Provide services to families with handicapped members that will, through prevention and support, help the family maintain a normal, traditional family atmosphere.

Program Recommendations:

(1) --
(2) Promote nutrition education and the availability of services (like nutritional experts or consultants) to families.
(3) Promote home based services for the disabled.

Topic:

Traditional family - in which one or both parents are employed outside the home.

Issue:

Recognize the need to strengthen the family structure in this time of working parents. Recognize the economic necessity of working parents and the special problems and needs of their families.

Policy Recommendations:

The federal government should seek ways to support and encourage family values.

Program Recommendations:

Encourage goverment and industry to provide family support services like:
--counselling
--day care
--flexible work schedules
It is also important to recognize and value the role of the homemaker.

Strategy Recommendations:

Encourage cooperation between government and industry in the furtherance of family support programs.

Topic:

Family structures - The single parent family.

Issue:

Special efforts should be undertaken to recognize the single parent family which results from divorce, death, separation, or desertion and to support it economically and emotionally.

Policy Recommendations:

(1) Stronger child support and fairer custody laws.
(2) Acceptance of parental responsibility.
(3) Examination of pension laws to improve the position of widows.
(4) Continued social security payments to widows and children.
(5) State compacts to prevent child snatching by estranged parents.

Program Recommendations:

(1) Continued support and extension of existing counselling, support and other outreach services.
(2) Convey conference recommendations to state bar associations and the courts.
(3) Public and government support of the single parent family unit.

Topic:

Family structures

Issue:

Young parents

Policy Recommendations:

Encourage government policies that promote the existence of young families and assist unwed parents.

Program Recommendations:

Structure federal financial support programs in ways which support the family whether or not one or both parents are employed. Encourage the extensive dissemination of pre-natal and post-natal information as well as counselling services for the immediate emotional support of the new mother and father. Recognize and encourage state and federal financial support for the extended family. Encourage education programs in junior and senior high schools which will provide adult life skills training for potential young parents.

Topic:

Impact of government policy on families.

Issue:

How can government policy be influenced to support and strengthen family life?

Policy Recommendations:

(1) It should be the policy of the federal and state governments to develop specific written policy documents on the family and family values against which existing government policy and legislative action can be measured.
(2) The state and federal governments should expedite family legislation through the legislative process.

Strategy Recommendations:

(1) The White House Conference should support the federal government in its efforts to further positive family policy and legislation.
(2) The new Office of the Family should be responsible for overseeing the development of these positive family policies and guidelines.
(3) White House Conference state steering committees should further positive family policies and legislation at the state level.
(4) Family impact statements should be required before the passage of proposed family related legislation.

Topic:

The work place and families

Issue:

How can employment policies be changed to promote family life?

Policy Recommendations:

(1) Government and private employment policies should be changed to allow for flex-time, part-time positions, job sharing, and maternity or paternity leave.
(2) Encouragement and support of on-site or readily available community based family support services like child health care and day care. (Over)

(3) Government, private sector, and union policies should be changed to minimize family moves and the consequent disruption of family life.

Strategy Recommendations:

(1) Representatives of management and labor should be appointed to study ways of implementing these recommendations.
(2) Corporate stockholders should be encouraged to support changes in company policy which support the family and the recommendations made here.
(3) Tax incentives should be used to promote positive family policies.

ADDITIONAL ISSUE
DISCUSSED

Topic 2

Preparation for Family Life - Social and educational services for families which emphasize retirement and Aging.

Issue a) In what ways can members of the community appreciate the gifts of the elderly?

Issue b) In what ways can members of the health profession and medical institutions be encouraged to provide services to the family and its elderly in all stages of life?

(I think recommendations under this issue dealth with encouraging families to keep their elderly at home, and encouraging nursing homes to provide an environment that is conducive to keep alive the family ties).....

Issue c) (I do not recall what it was, but I believe it dealt with helping children and youth appreciate the knowledge and the wisdom of the elderly.)

MONTANA

Topic: Energy-Inflation-Employment

Issue: In what ways can the problem of inflation due to rising energy costs be solved?

Policy Recommendations. 1. The federal government should be sensitive to the impact that such anti-inflation policies as high interest rates and wage/price controls have on the family and should therefore address the problem of inflation primarily in terms of the energy shortage. 2. The Administration should give top priority to the efforts being made by the Department of Energy to find effective alternative energy sources. 3. The Department of Energy should, in every way possible, encourage research in the
Program Recommendations: (See Reverse)

development of energy sources, increasing the available research grants and providing technical assistance.

Topic: Sensitivity and accountability by government to families.

Issue: How can we insure that government agencies, regulations, institutions and resource development on all levels is sensitive and supportive to families and family life.

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of government on all levels to: 1. Encourage and strengthen the family by enabling families to deal with their own issues, concerns and problems on a local level with a minimum of governmental involvement. To deinstitutionalize and empower the family with its enherent authority. 2. To encourag churches, private non-profit institutions and organizations rather than government to provide services and support to families in need or seeking assistance on a local level.
Program Recommendations: (see reverse)

1. Fund the new office for families of Dert. of Health, Education and Welfare.
2. Hire a Director who will be responsive to the needs and concerns of rural as well as urban families.
3. Initiate and intense evaluation of government programs and agencies and "kill" useless duplication of programs and agencies by "sunset" actions.

Strategy Recommendations:

3. Encourage work incentive programs for families seeking government assistance whereby they may retain their self esteem and be supported in their responsibility to other family members.
4. Encourage the adoption of a "family impact statement" where in studies are done before significant legislation is passed on its impact and effect on family life.
5. Review and insure that all policies, legislation and regulations seek to be responsive and supportive to families.

Topic: Strengthening the Institution of Marriage

Issue: How can we insure that public policy, governmental laws and regulations be sensitive to and supportive of strengthening the institution of marriage.

Policy Recommendations: 1) Preparation for Marriage--a) requiring mandatory counseling for family living before the issuance of a Marriage License. 2) Communication in Marriage--a) Funding Marriage Enrichment Programs-Public & Private. b) Encouraging positive family communications in the home, and c) where and when necessary, encouraging the counsel of a neutral third party to restore broken communication lines between husband and wife, or between parents and children. (See Reverse)

3) Crises of Marriage and Divorce--a) encouraging counseling with a trusted party during times of family stress and adversity, thus assisting in seeing the married parties through a difficult time of crises and in restoring them to a level of normalcy, and b) requiring a mandatory waiting period before a divorce decree becomes finalized, and further by requiring during period counseling with a neutral third party in hopes of seeking a marital reconciliation.

Topic: Changing Family Values (Under White House Conference Theme of "Changing Realities of Family Life")

Issue: In what ways can progressive deterioration in social attitudes and moral values be discouraged?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Re-emphasis on parents responsibility to each other and to the family. 2. Encourage through local organizations, churches and clubs a re-emphasis on spending quality time together as families. 3. Encourage the respect of spiritual attitudes and values within the family by discouraging attempts of schools, media, and institutions to change, minimize or reject values taught in the home. 4. Encourage schools, institutions and government to re-emphasize basic positive human values such as

Program Recommendations: (See Reverse)

Continue tax deduction of contributions to churches, and continued tax exempt status for churches and religious organizations because of free public services in community, education, welfare, and social services by the church. Granting tax breaks to corporatior and industries that allow "flex time" for work schedules, so that fathers and working mothers can spend more time with their children and families.

Strategy Recommendations:

honesty, responsibility, integrety, chastity, fidelity, loyality inherent in all religious and ethnic cultures.

Topic: Family Life Education

Issue: How can our homes, schools and voluntary groups meet the needs for family life education?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Make resources and opportunities readily available to parents and other family members so they can increase the knowledge and skills needed to aid family strengths. 2. Elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities should expand their opportunities for education in family life. 3. Voluntary groups for youth, adults and families should be commended and encouraged to initiate or expand their program and services directed towards family life education.

Program Recommendations: 1. Family life education to include such areas as--building self esteem, problem solving, interpersonal communications, basic skills in human relations, human sexuality education, financial management, nutrition, health-personal, mental, safety, substance use and abuse (chemical dependency), parenting skills, effective coping methods.

Topic: Variety of Choices

Issue: How can our public policies concerning the elderly support family unity?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of all government agencies to provide care of the elderly in their own homes, the homes of relatives, or friends.
2. The goal of all government agencies should be to make more appropriate use of institutional care so that such care will be reserved for those who clearly need it.
3. There should be no reduction in the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit of elderly recipients because they reside with a relative (living arrangements with relatives should be encouraged rather than discouraged).
4. The federal government should make low-interest loans available to families who need to remodel and/or make additions to their homes in order to care for elderly family members.
5. The federal government should base all policies and program requirements on a "least restrictive" basis, respecting the elderly person's rights to self-determination.
6. Federal and state government should initiate and develop day care programs for the elderly to assist families who are caring for their elders.
7. The Social Security Act should be amended to increase outpatient mental health services available under Medicare so that the elderly may remain in the community rather than be institutionalized.
8. Both Medicare and Medicaid benefits should be expanded to include hospice, palliative care services to terminally ill persons and their families (including respite care, bereavement follow-up service, etc.) to enable persons to die at home surrounded by their families.

Topic: Alcohol Abuse-Chemical Dependency

Issue: How can the problem of alcohol abuse and chemical dependency be reduced through public prevention education and treatment programs?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Recognition should be given to the seriousness of alcoholism in our nation. 2. Both primary and secondary schools should provide extensive preventative educational programs concerning alcohol use/abuse. 3. Government should not be directly involved in the sale and promotion of alcoholic beverages. 4. All advertising of alcoholic beverages should be outlawed, and the true effects of alcohol publicized. 5. Alcoholism should be recognized as a disease for insurance purposes and the treatment of alcoholism should be covered by third party insurance carriers. 6. Treatment programs for alcoholics and their families should be made readily available in both urban and rural areas. 7. The media should be used to educate the public concerning the seriousness of this problem.

Topic: Availablility of Quality Child Care (Day Care, Foster Care, Home Care)

Issue: How can the government assist in solving the problem of inadequate, costly child care?

Policy Recommendations: 1. It should be the policy of government to provide support services, counseling and education in parenting skills to the natural parents. 2. It should be the policy of the government at all levels to promote adequate, government subsidized (sliding scale) child care programs. 3. It should be the policy of the government to require quality and high standards in both the facilities, staff and programming for child care. It should be the policy of the government to promote child care programs which meet the diversity of needs in each community, such as evening and weekend programs for families on varied work schedules. 5. It should be the policy of the government to encourage participation by parents in the standard setting and evaluation of child care programs. 6. It should be the policy of the government to encourage business, industry and government to provide child care for children of employees. 7. It should be the policy of government to adequately fund, train and supervise foster families. 8. It should be the policy of government to require mandatory review of all foster care placements every six months to determine if foster care is the most appropriate status. 9. It should be the policy of government to make every effort to return children to their natural parents as soon as possible.

Topic: Native American

Issue: More understanding of racial and ethnic concerns, particularly Native Americans

Policy Recommendations: Support from all areas of Government in the following:

1. More understanding of Indian customs, values, culture and ethics.
2. Promote more understanding systems through TV medias, education.
3. Reviewing education materials, curriculum materials that promote racism and stereotyping.
4. Early training and seminars in area of culture awareness. (See Reverse)
5. Supporting Native American parent training; supporting Native American training by Native Americans.
6. Support Native American research by Native Americans.
7. Curriculum and materials developed and approved by the tribes to be distributed in other school systems. (Monies should be available for distributions).
8. Native Americans under public assistance shall not be penalized where resource income is concerned.
9. Support traditional treaty rights.
10. Recommend direct funding for social services, and support Native American social service programs.
11. Support single-parent (mothers) on or off reservations.

Topic: Families on farms and in rural communities.

Issue: In what ways should the government assist rural families in preserving rural values and in enhancing quality of life?

Policy Recommendations: 1. Enact legislation facilitating the transfer of farm land from one generation to another. 2. Enact legislation assisting youth to enter careers in agriculture including farming. 3. Enact legislation designed to assure that farm products will bring a fair return above production costs. 4. Give consideration to preserving rural values: a. A way of life stressing community with others and with nature. b. A sense of pride and stewardship of vital resources. c. A sense of independence and self-reliance. d. A sense of optimism in the young that they can acquire access to land and a means of making a living from it.

Topic: Television Programming

Issue: How can individuals and families learn to use television as a positive force in family interaction and moral and intellectual development?

Policy Recommendations: 1. There is a need to acknowledge the presence of television as an integral part of society with both positive and negative effects on the individual and family. 2. Each television station serving Montana should be sensitive to their responsibility to provide quality programming especially for children and strict control over programming shown during family viewing hours. 3. All government and private agencies should give top priority to developing educational programs to help individuals and families learn to use television as a positive force in individual development and family interaction.

Topic: Family Violence (especially spouse and child abuse).

Issue: In what ways should the government seek to address cultural, social, and legal efforts directed toward eliminating violence in families?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of government to: (1) Enact legislation for the protection of family members when violence occurs. (2) Strictly enforce laws requiring the reporting of abuse. (3) Promote programs and services designed to prevent violence in the family, through such things as education support groups, shelters, counseling services, and educational programs in secondary schools. (4) Place greater restrictions on the amount of violent content in mass media programming. (See Reverse)

5. Consideration should be given to the following suggestions:
   Redefine the marital relationship as one in which any use of physical force is absolutely unacceptable. Reduce the use of physical force as an instrument of government.
   Reduce physical punishment as a mode of childrearing and school discipline.
   Encourage parents to control acts of physical force between their children.
   Provide parents and children with techniques for coping with and resolving the inevitable conflicts of family life by means other than force and coercion.
   Eliminate the idea of wife as property of husband and children as property of parents from continuing presence in the law, in religion, in administrative procedure, and as a taken-for-granted aspect of family life.
   Eliminate the pervasive system of sex-typed occupations in which "women's occupations" tend to be poorly paid, and the equally pervasive difference between the pay of men and women in the same occupation.
   Reduce or eliminate the sex-typed pattern of family role responsibilities.
   Encourage parents to insure that their interaction, expectations and all other aspects of socialization are not differentiated according to the sex of the child.

Topic: Family Roles-The Church

Issue: What programs and services can the churches provide to help strengthen family life?

Policy Recommendations:

1. "Let the church be the church."
2. Taking its directive from the love of God as displayed in the scripture, the church is capable of, can and will provide services to the community which will strengthen family life.

Program Recommendations:

1. Model by leadership:
   a. lay/clergy work together;
   b. leaders demonstrate family life.
2. Develop programs which would encourage family nights, camp, and other short programs.
3. Develop new organizations which will aid local communities in family life: private schools, day care centers, services for the elderly.
4. Use existing organizations to develop family life: instruction in church school, religious education, corporate worship and family counseling.
5. Laity and clergy form inter-church committees to search ways to strengthen the family.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The church should be allowed to proclain its message individually and corporately.
2. The church should instruct its families in their legal and their civil responsibilities.
3. Have non-governmental national family convocations.

Topic: Family Roles-Womens Roles

Issue: Since the traditional role of women has been expanding in recent years, what assistance and support should be available to women?

Policy Recommendations:

1. We recognize that wupport systems are needed for women in their various roles.
2. We recommend that existing systems be identified and that additional support systems be developed to meet the expanding roles of women.

Program Recommendations:

1. Support continuation of Title IX in prohibiting sexual discrimination as a support system to encourage women and enhance their opportunities.
2. Provide a system of continuing education for all women in the roles of their choice.
3. Put pressure on media to create positive images of women in their various roles.
4. Redirect exising resources such as Cooperative Extension programs, 4-H, churches, schools, YWCA, Community Action Programs, to become a more integral part of the support system, particulary in regard to a woman's self esteem and self confidence.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Educational programs to explain Title IX; adequate enforcement and funding.
2. Educate the public on women's issues, including ERA.
3. Education regarding enforcement techniques and lobbying techniques regarding broadcasting companies, magazines and all media aspects.
4. Tax credit or low interest house loans for parents so that one parent can remain in the home to care for pre-school children.
5. Re-entry employment credit or mothering deferment credit so that women can return to the work force with priority.
6. Continued support for displaced homemaker programs.

Topic: Family Roles-Government Involvement

Issue: In what areas and to what extent should the government be involved with the family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. We recommend that Congress not pass and also be able to repeal any restrictive laws regarding parental rights to care for, discipline and teach. At the same time we do not deny protection of individual family members, eg. child abuse.
2. We recommend Congress restrict the judicial branch regarding these parental rights to care for, teach and discipline. At the same time we do not deny protection of individual family members, eg. child abuse.
3. Limit Federal contral of education.
4. Define family as related by marriage, blood or adoption.
5. Court decisions infringing on parental rights be referred to Congress for appropriate action.

Program Recommendations:

1. Political responsibility.
2. Personal responsibility.
3. Churches expand their roles, reassume responsibiliy.
4. Help the truly needy on a local basis not at the federal level.
5. Existing laws concerning child support should be enforced.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Churches tax exempt status should be retained.
2. Restructure the tax system return of programs and revenue to state and local governments.
3. State Legislative branches must cooperate in child support collection.
4. Reduce government spending and staff.
5. Day care should be operated as a free enterprise by the private business sector with community involvement. Businesses should be involved with flex time and school time working hours.

Topic: Education for Family Life: Preparation for Marriage

Issue: In what ways can we strengthen private and public institutions and the family itself to prepare individuals for the realities of marriage?

Policy Recommendations:

Private and public sectors cooperatively seek wasy for lifelong prepararation for marriage(with primary emphasis on the private).

Program Recommendations: Encourage educational programs at all age levels in the area of human relationships.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Encourage the private sector to take programs that have been developed and make them available to the public sector(not limited to family home evenings-Serindipity, Christian Marriage Enrichment, etc.)
2. Encourage community support groups to affirm one another and take necessary action for strengthening the family.
3. Encourage the educational system to publish material to strengthen positive family relationships concurrent with courses designed to teach those topics.
4. Encourage pre-marital counseling.

Topic: Education for Family Life-Parenting

Issue: In what ways could individuals be prepared for and supported in parenting?

Policy Recommendations:

We agree with the statement that the family is the integral unit of society. Building self esteem in the child is one responsibility parents cannot delegate to others. To assist parents in this task it should be the policy of the federal, state, and local governments as well as the private sector to maintain existing parenting education resources in local communities and to plan and implement parenting education as they desire.

Program Recommendations:

1. Support positive programs that are helping parents.
2. We encourage the development of care-giving skills, i.e.
   a. concern for self and others
   b. two-way communication
   c. the development of responsibility.
3. We encourage inter-agency cooperation of programs.
4. Encourage extended family support systems either natural or substitute. e.g. foster grandparents, houseparents for students, big/little sister of brother, neighborhood support groups.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Parent crisis lines.
2. Media spots for parent education.
3. Education through the public and private sector, e.g. school, church, parent work shops, YM-UW, Red Corss, PTA, Adult education groups, 4-H and other youth groups.

Topic: Education for Family Life-Sex Education

Issue: Who should be responsible for providing sex education and how can they be supported?

Policy Recommendations:

Definition of Sex Education: a holistic approach to sexuality which includes a combination of biological, pshchological and spiritual emphasis. Parents are responsible for the education of their children in all areas of life including sex education.

Program Recommendations:

1. Educate parents as to their parental responsibility of teaching sex education to their children.
2. Education for parents on how to teach their children sex education.
3. Restrict the dissemination of sex education or materials and literature to minors without parental permission.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Media, i.e. PSA's, TV, radio.
2. Encourage parent-to-parent communication through volunteer organizations.
3. Encourage churches to address sex education.

Topic: Education-The Quality of Education

Issue: To insure quality education, what are the most critical needs and how should they be addressed?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Quality education should provide each child with basic skills that will enable him or her to adequately funciton as a self sufficient individual in today's society.
2. Quality education should call for the removal of the influence of secular humanism in our school systems.

Program Recommendations:

1. A reduction of federal governmental controls and involvement in our local school systems.
2. A reduction on emphasis of extra curricular activities.
3. Class size should be limited for adequate education and teacher control.
4. Parental involvement and responsibility in education and the lives of their children should have greater emphasis.

Strategy Recommendations:

More parent involvement in local groups working, such as PTA, parent study groups.

Topic: Education-Home/School Relations

Issue: In what ways could the relationship among schools, parents, and children be improved?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Clarification of home and school roles and their relationship to each other.
2. Develop open communications between home/school to promote shared cooperation and planning regarding student's programs.
3. More local control of school programs in response to community needs anticipating less federal contral and funds.
4. Promote family strengths.

Program Recommendations:

1. It is the parents' primary responsibility to teach children morals with back-up support from the schools.
2. Study in-depth the gamut of problems affecting home and school and initiate action.
3. Make parents more aware of areas in which they have a right and responsibility to voice opinions in a tactful way.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Work through PTA and Parent's Advisory Committee to develop family strengths.
2. Parent-Teacher conferences.
3. Consider family strength awards.

Topic: Education-Public/Private

Issue: What are the concerns of families choosing alternative educational programs and how could these concerns be addressed?

Policy Recommendations:

1. We recommend encouragement of public perception concerning family concerns for alternative educational programs.
2. We recommend the reduction of unreasonable government regulations especially in the area of alternative education.

Program Recommendations:

Involve public and private entities, conferences, and discussions of these concerns:

a. transportation
b. tuition
c. economics

Strategy Recommendations:

We recommend to develop programs geared for media, the encouragement of individual commitments, and that conferences be set up on local and state levels to discuss these concerns.

Topic: Family Crisis-Child Abuse and Neglect

Issue: How can child abuse/neglect be prevented and what supports could be helpful to the abused/neglected child and the family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to continue the financial support for prevention and correction of child abuse and neglect. It should not direct what programs of strategy should be followed on the local level.
2. It should be the policy of the federal government to be a clearinghouse on prevention and correction programs that work.
3. The State government should provide adequate staff to provide on-going services.
4. Communities should develop the process and organizational form which will address the program and should encourage community awareness and volunteer support
5. Cummunities should create an atmosphere in which innovative program ideas can be tried.
6. Define "abuse and neglect" in the local community.

Program Recommendations:

1. Develop parenting education programs that are sufficiently attractive to interest all segments of the community.
2. Develop "prevention" programs that serve all parents and serve high risk groups where they are adequately identified.
3. Develop good child care education programs for parents-to-be as well as parents with children at all age levels.
4. Encourage adequate training for professional staffs by providing staff with Child Abuse and Neglect Seminars, adequate support to those staff within the agencies in which they are employed and greater community awareness and support for agencies and persond doing this difficult work.
5. Encourage the development of more programs of Youth Helping Youth.
6. Volunteer programs should be implemented to include adequate supervision, training and support.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Governors, mayors and council persons should encourage the development of a process and an organizations of citizens to deal with abuse and neglect and should support the same.
2. Communities that have developed programs and strategies should share them with other communities.
3. Civic organizations, churches, schools, industry and others should be asked to become aware of the problems and needs and should provide the necessary support for good community services.

Topic: Family Crisis-Domestic Abuse

Issue: How can domestic abuse be prevented and what supports could be helpful to the victim and the family?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Urge federal government to maintain and expand programs for victims, abusers, and chilren of domestic violence and support current legislation in Congress.
2. Support development of domestic violence task force formulation at the county and local levels that involve an interagency coucil(police, county attorney, schools, mental health agencies).
3. Continuation and expansion of existing state funded programs.
4. Continued research on the treatment and causes of abuse(alcohol, drugs, unemployment, economic stress, changing roles of women).
5. Define domestic violence as violence committed against one person by another member of the same household.

Program Recommendations:

1. Doctors, lawyers, judges and other professionals need to be sensitized to the dynamics of abuse.
2. Conflict resolution, assertive communication, appropriate management of one's anger and sex role determination education beginning in pre-school as well as churches.
3. Encourage more pre-marital counseling and parenting education.
4. Provide preventive programs for potential abusers and victims.
5. Provide abuser treatment programs.
6. Support programs for those victims who leave the domestic violence situation.
7. Encourage the development of programs such as the Displaced Homemaker program.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. State legislation to authorize an increased marriage license fee(funds would be administered by the county to domestic abuse programs, both treatment and prevention).
2. Finance educational programs through higher court fines to abusers.
3. Court enforced counselling with a fee to offset program costs.
4. Work for the elimination of the modeling of violence through the media.
5. Request a realistic and accurate portrayal of negative effects of domestic abuse by the media.

Topic: Family Crisis-Stress

Issue: How can families be motivated to seek help for stress or mental health problems to prevent family breakdown and through what avenues could support be provided?

Policy Recommendations:

Education should be provided to the general public concerning the causes, effects, characteristics of and responses to stress in all aspects of daily living.

Program Recommendations:

1. Utilize existing programs to disseminate information(churches, schools, media, adult education, etc.).
2. Emphasize training in specific skills necessary for effective communication:
   a. Decision making.
   b. Conflict resolution.
   c. Time and resource management.
3. Develop an identifiable mental health support system in every community using both professional and non-professional individuals.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Provide monies to ensure support of mental health programs.
2. Utilize media blitz, popular programming/advertising to convice general public of importance of mental health programs.
3. Instigate legislation to ensure equal access to mental health services regardless of income, sex, age, handicaps, etc.

Topic: Media-Portrayal of Families

Issue: What incentives could be provided to encourage a more wholesome and realistic portrayal of family life?

Policy Recommendations:

Definition of Traditional Family: "A family consists of persons who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption."

The communications media should exercise restraint, discretion and taste in their programming. There is grave concern that traditional family values are increasingly attacked, twisted and ridiculed in the media. Strong national, state and local laws should be supported which restrict the dissemination of materials which tend to detract from the traditional concept of the family, i.e. pornography, violence, homosexuality and family divisiveness.

Efforts should be made to emphasize at all levels of management, from the family unit to the federal level, those traditional concepts of family living, i.e. legal bonds, family solidarity, religious freedom and sense of family purpose.

Program Recommendations:

1. Public Service Announcements(PSA's) should be maintained, increased in frequency, and given greater visibility during family viewing time. PSA's should be extended to other media(radio, newspapers, periodicals, billboards, etc.). Emphasis should be placed on family roles and values, communication, moral standards, pending time together as a family and family solidarity.
2. The family hour viewing time should encompass the hours of 3:00PM to 9:00PM daily. Enforcement of existing federal regulations should be tightened and better enforced to accurately depict traditional family situations in an uplifting wholesome manner.
3. During each programming day an announcement should be made when the family viewing time has ended with a suggestion that further programs be viewed with parental discretion.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Publication of the following telephone number to protest objectionable television programming or commend tose programs of an uplifting nature: 1-800-243-8220.

Topic: Media-Pornography

Issue: To what extent and in what ways should the sale of objectionable material be governed?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Define clearly what is pornographic or objectionable material.
2. Encourage and educate individual families and society to take their responsibilities in dealing with community standards.
3. Create a body of enforcable laws that support individuals, families and society in carrying out their responsibilities.

Program Recommendations:

1. Create a National Conference on Issues of Pornography.
2. National awareness program on the problems of pornography.
3. Establish and publicize a directory of community resources.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. All existing legal channels should be followed.
2. Encourage individuals to apply pressure where applicable.
3. Encourage the White House to speak out against pornography.

Topic: Economic Pressures-Inflation

Issue: In view of the rising rate of inflation and its divisive effect upon families, what could public and private institutions and the family itself do to help the family cope?

Policy Recommendations:

We have recognized the problem of inflation as it affects the family and have defined two of the primary causes as deficit spending by the U.S. Government and excessive use of consumer credit and a lack of budget discipline by the populace.

Program Recommendations:

1. We would recommend a program of a balanced Federal budget both now and in the future.
2. We would recommend required consumer education courses in schools and encourage families and individuals to take advantage of consumer education programs offered by the Cooperative Extension Service and other agencies.

Strategy Recommendations:

We urge families to establish goals and priorities to balance their own budgets. Families also need to provide all members and especially children with opportunities for learning how to manage money responsibly. Individuals have a responsibility to educate themselves and become involved in governmental affairs and be knowledgeable about how the monies are spent.

Topic: Economic Pressures-Taxation

Issue: In what ways can the present system of taxation be changed to benefit families?

Policy Recommendations:

Relieve the tax pressure on the family.

Program Recommendations:

1. Inheritance tax should not discriminate against the family unit.
2. The Federal income tax structure should be changed so as not to discriminate against married couples.
3. Retirement plans should recognize non-income producing spouses.

4. The Federal income tax tables should be restructured so that single persons and married persons filing separately would be taxed equally.
5. Raise the level of allowable contribution to the Individual Retirement System(IRA) for non-income spouses to the same level as the income-producing spouse.
6. In Nebraska, balance property tax 33 1/3%, income tax 33 1/3% and sales tax 33 1/3% to relieve the burden on property.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Insist that government recognize the contribution of the full-time homemaker, farm wife or spouse/partner in family business, so that these individuals are not discriminated against in taxes, retirement plans, etc.
2. Provide broader public awareness for the need for estate planning to avoid later inheritance tax problems.
3. Remove general homestead exemption as a trade-off for balancing sales, income and property tax.

Topic: Economic Pressures-Low Income Families

Issue: What changes in public/private programs and policies could be beneficial to low income families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Limit time on A.D.C. to provide incentives to provide their own income.
2. Cut back on Federal spending.
3. Provide education so that low income families can get off welfare.

Program Recommendations:

Welfare reform.

Stategy Recommendations:

Local input be given for welfare reform.

Topic: Health-Abortion

Issue: What shoud be the extent of the government's role in addressing the question of abortion?

Policy Recommendations:

The adoption of a Human Life Amendment to enable the people of the U. S. to:

1. Return to the original concept of the Constitution which declares the right of preservation of human life including the unborn, pursued in all governmental action.
2. The Human Life Amendment should stipulate in cases of incest or rape that there be a 24 hour period when vaginal evaquation can be performed
3. The government must abstain from any interferance in the natural process of the origination and sustanance of human life, e.g. test tube babies, advice to adolescents and obtrusion into areas of morality which should be left within the realm of the family.

Program Recommendations:

1. Federal funding-no tax money should be used to either perform or promote abortion, e.g. federal funding of Planned Parenthood, medicaid funding of abortions and tax exempt status of abortion clinics.
2. Adoption-the development and re-definition of laws governing adoption to increase the availability of adoptive children and reduce government interferance which currently restricts and prolongs the period of adoption.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. The federal government should provide a vehicle for obtaining a national referendum on the Human Life Amendment.
2. Concerned individuals are urged to write their Congressmen or Senators.
3. Conference follow-up staff should contact key governmental leaders to inform them of conference findings and to explain the recommendations.

Topic: Health-Family Planning

Issue: In what ways could public and private institutions assist those who seek help in family planning?

Policy Recommendations:
It should be the general policy of the Federal government to return responsibility for family planning to the family.

Program Recommendations:

1. Distribute information to general public regarding family planning services available to families through churches, welfare, public health and adult education. Support should be given to the above family planning groups which emphasize parent education and combined parent teacher education.
2. Planned Parenthood should not be funded by the government.

Strategy Recommendations:
Current tax monies now earmarked for Planned Parenthood should be channeled into local welfare, Public Health and Adult Education to strengthen program objectives.

Topic: Health-Handicaps

Issue: What support systems could be helpful to the handicapped and the families of the handicapped?

Policy Recommendations:
Move toward a consolidation and clarification of existing services and programs. Coodinate State and Federal regulations relating to the handicapped and their families.

Program Recommendations:

1. Establish educational programs for handicapped people and their families: professional people working with the handicapped, i.e. doctors, nurses, lawyers, therapists, educators, etc.
2. End the debate on community based versus institutional programs for handicapped persons recognizing that both are needed as handicapping conditions range over a wide spectrum of severities.
3. Change insurance and guardianship laws and regulations pertaining to the employment of the handicapped. These laws should work for the handicapped not against them.
4. End the duplication of services and bureaucratic red tape that only leads to wasted effort, time, and money on the part of all concerned.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Urge professional schools and professional organizations to encourage internship time be spent learning of the special needs of the handicapped and their families.
2. Utilize popular media to inform the public and help develop positive attitudes toward the handicapped and their families.
3. Establish famliy co-ops that enable families to rely more on their own resources and less on governmental and outside agencies.
4. Lobby appropriate legislative bodies to enact changes.

Topic: Child Care-Availability

Issue: What can be done to provide available and accessible child care to families?

Policy Recommendations:

To provide accessible quality child care to meet the broad needs of families as represented in today's society with freedom of choice to meet their most particular and unique needs.

Program Recommendations:

1. Develop sufficient child care for children of all ages whose parent are in the lavor force.
   a. address the needs particularly of infants and school age children.
   b. provide for non-traditional care as needed by various groups of people, such as 24 hour care, provision for sick children, etc.
2. Care for children who should be provided respite care out of the home for protection or emergency care.
3. Care available for children of parents who be choice seek alternate care for their own personal reasons.
4. Plan for care for the intervals in a child's day when, by necessity, they must accompany their parents to public places, such as stores, hospitals, etc.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Business and industry should be encouraged through an incentive program to help establish part-time or flex-time and, if possible, to explore the feasibility of child care in or near the business itself.
2. A coordinating effort with the retired and elderly population should be made to extend to them the opportunity for volunteer, part or full time employment in child care so our children's lives and the quality of their lives may be enhanced by each other.
3. Encourage the location of child care facilities within convenient distance to enable "closer to home" facilities, to be effected through restructuring of zoning laws.
4. Encourage local communities to utilize existing agencies to develop appropriate care facilities as related to their particular role and mission.

Topic: Child Care-Regulation

Issue: What should be the nature of regulations of child care and what may be it's effect on availability, quality, and cost?

Policy Recommendations:

Establish effective, equitable regulations which insure the health, welfare, and safety of children for whose care is provided outside of the home, including day care centers, day care homes and other preschool educational centers.

Program Recommendations:

1. Develop the standards for monitoring FIDCR and state regulation.
2. Develop standards of training help.

Child care regulation should be made at the state rather than federal level. HEW Day Care Regulation(45CFR-71) published March, 1980, should be rescinded. HEW should accept the regulation promulgated by the State.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Public education for parents to assume the responsibility of selecting child care.
2. Possible community sponsorship of facilities.
3. Rugulation that is cost feasible such as in regard to record keeping.
4. Possibilities of group insurance programs and cooperative buying to keep costs minimized.
5. Parents should accept responsibility for insuring state enforcement of appropriate regulations of all child care.

Topic: Child Care-Cost

Issue: What policies could be instituted to assist families with child care costs?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Increase existing child care income tax credit for low to middle income from 20% to 30%.
2. Increase income tax deductions per dependent from $1,000 to $1,200.
3. Provide tax incentives for child care centers built and supported by private businesses.
4. We discourage direct involvement of the government in child care programs.

Program Recommendations:

Discourage government paid TV, radio and other media advertisements for government controlled child care centers.

Strategy Recommendations:

Recommendations regarding changes in the tax laws and tax incentives should be introduced to the Ways and Means Committee.

Topic: The Elderly-Health Care

Issue: What can be done to provide available and accessible health care for the elderly?

Policy Recommendations:

Make more resources available for keeping elderly in their own homes or those of the family. Home care should be utilized rather than nursing home care when available. Simplicy medicare/medicaid forms. Promote education and training of psychological and medical doctors in the care of the elderly. Promote a holistic approach to the care of the elderly whether in their own home or in an institutional setting.

Program Recommendations:

1. Open a free-standing clinic for home health care.
2. Make preventative health care easily accessible for the elderly whether rural or urban.
3. Increase financial resources for families caring for elderly in the home.
4. Review and investigate ways for reducing unnecessary hospitalization and institutionalization of the elderly.
5. Promote increased awareness by the general population of the needs of the elderly and how they can be assisted.
6. Establish a hot-line for information.

Strategy Recommendations:

Dissemination of information for those hwo are involved in health care as to the agencies and resources available to the elderly.

Topic: The Elderly-Supportive Services

Issue: What supportive services can be provided to help the elderly maintain independance and dignity?

Policy Recommendations:

Considering the present economic situation in out country, there is a need for better implementation of existing programs and policies and information on what is available to the elderly.

Program Recommendations:

1. Continued assistance for utility bills within certain income levels.
2. Continued support for tax exemption for elderly based on income, value of home.
3. Utilize existing programs to establish block homes-bases for the elderly.
4. Provide information on tutoring, counseling, serior companion programs, telephone reassurance, escort service, tax, legal assistance, home reparir, weatherization and transportation.
5. Look to the elderly as a community resource. Realize the untapped resource of the elderly in each community.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Improve monitoring at the local level to reduce duplication and increase efficiency of programs.
2. Encourage opportunity for involvement of the church in administering programs locally, receiving funding and utilizing volunteers.
3. Better use of volunteer time in all community organizations of all age groups in working with the elderly.

Topic: The Elderly-Alternative Living Arrangements

Issue: What can be done to educate the elderly and their families toward maintaining the elderly in the most independent living situation possible?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Encourage families to maintain responsibility for the well being of their family including the elderly.
2. Encourage the least amount of government intervention in responsibility toward the elderly as possible.
3. Encourage maximun responsibility at the family and local/community level through free enterprise.
4. Encourage the elderly to do all they can to take care of themselves and participate in life as long as possible.
5. We encourage individuals and the community to do all they can to care for the elderly who have no family.

Program Recommendations:

1. Make the following available to the elderly: resource people, hot line, block houses for general contact or emergencies.
2. Each family should be responsible for developing its own personal program.
3. Low cost housing.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Families should project financial plans considering health and housing changes in the future or changes in general.
2. Give tax incentives to encourage arrangements for care of the elderly within the family.
3. Encourage free enterprise to develop low cost housing.

Topic: Law-Divorce/Financial Settlement

Issue: In what ways could the present divorce laws be modified to strengthen reconciliation efforts and to insure the most equitable settlement to both parties?

Policy Recommendations:

Reconciliation laws appear to be adequate but need a more uniform application. There should be a continuing education program for judges(certification). This would include all statutes related to divorce.

Community property laws should be studied for possible use in Nebraska. Equitable settlement considers more that "both" parties-it should include all parties(children).

Program Recommendations:

A continuous education program should be developed to provide for certification of judges(credits and periodic recertification exams).

Strategy Recommendations:

The law school, state court administrator, bar and other would develop the criteria and present it to the legislature for enactment. This would be a non-tax financed endeavor.

Topic: Law-Child Custory/Support

Issue: In what ways could child cuscody and support laws be modified and enforced to provide for the child's best interest?

Policy Recommendations:

1. In determining the best interests of the child the bond that a child has with a psychological parent, along with other factors, should be considered in awarding and continuing custody.
2. In determining child support there should be recognition that inflation, increased earnings, increased expenses should be considered without requiring expensive litigation.
3. There should be an automatic review procedure by the County Attorney whenever child support payments become delinquent and action should be taken.

Program Recommendations:

1. Judges of domestic relations courts should be involved in on-going educational programs that deal with all issues of custody and support and not just legal questions.
2. The conciliation court should be available to offer arbitration of disputes on custody and support in an attempt to avoid protracted, expensive litigation.
3. A lawyer will be appointed for the child unless the judge finds that it is in the best interests of the child that no lawyer be appointed.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Citizens should encourage county attorneys to develop active programs to collect delinquent child support.
2. Child behavior specialists should be asked to develop educational programs on child custody.
3. Continuing citizen involvemnt should be encouraged.

Topic: Law-Inheritance

Issue: What can be done to make inheritance laws more equitable to families?

Policy Recommendations:

1. Marriage is an equal financial partnership. Tax laws should acknowledge this intent and insure that property goes to the surviving spouse at death without tax.
2. Current tax laws take no consideration of inflation. The laws should reflect inflation-stepping up exemption and gift allowance amounts accordingly.

Program Recommendations:

1. Phase out of Federal estate tax.
2. Equitable estate taxes during the phase out of the estate tax.
3. It is the individual's responsibility and right to have a will to provide for children as heirs.

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Education of the general public in the area of estate planning.
2. Lobby elected officials.

Topic: Law-Foster Care/Adoption

Issue: In what ways can we assure a permanen, nurturing family for every child?

Policy Recommendations:
1. Prevention of family "break-up"-primary resources should be available for prevention.
2. Accountability program-where court related foster care is involve.
3. Mandatory "home study" for prospective adoptive parents before placements.
4. Family court statewide regarding adoptions, domestic relations, abuse, neglect, child custody(all county courts should be uniform).

Program Recommendations:
1. Neighborhood volunteer self-help groups(cluster groups).
2. Door-to-door volunteer and professional advisors for foster and natural home care where there has been an identified case of child neglect of abuse.

Strategy Recommendations:
Elected officials should commit themselves to the recommendations of this conference and to work toward translation of these recommendations into reality.

TOPICS	ISSUES	RECOMMENDATIONS
Alcoholism	There are approximately 10,000,000 alcoholics in the U.S. Many family problems are directly caused by alcoholism.	Alcoholic diversion classes. Alcoholism counseling.
Agriculture	Corporate farming	Corporate farming negatively affects the family and the economy. Citizens should make their feelings known to Congressmen and Senators.

NEVADA

Nevada communicated their topics as indicated on the following page. They will be sending their recommendations which will be made available at the Los Angeles Conference.

NEVADA TOPICS

Family in the Workplace

- o How can private enterprise be stimulated with minimal Government intervention?
- o How can employment opportunities, job skills and good work habits be developed?
- o Quality Child Care

Health

- o Initiate impact of substance abuse on families

Education

- o Ensure local school districts retain control of sex-education curriculum
- o Improve quality of education to meet varying needs of families

Government Impact

- o Tax Structure

Destructive Influences

- o Media
- o Pornography

Economic Influences and Pressures

- o Inflation

Strengthening Family Unity

- o Religious Freedom

Family Rights

Family Needs - Support Systems

- o Change Social Security Law
- o Improve Welfare

Economic, Environmental & Social Impact

- o MX-missle System

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico communicated the following list of their issues. They will be sending their recommendations which will be made available at the Los Angeles Conference.

Abortion

Government and Families

Family Values

Child Care/Day Care

Family in Crises

Education for Parenting

Sex Education

Taxes - Economics

Topic: Health

Issue: Health Costs

Policy Recommendations:

1. Dignity of elderly should be enhanced by programs to support senior citizens, particularly home care services which enable families to care for the elderly in the community. Nursing home space and costs could be reduced by good home care services.
2. Changes in medicare rules and supplimental insurance for long term medical care for elderly.
3. Make care available, affordable, and feasible, especially in the rural communities.
4. Make information available about HMO's and Group Health.
5. Stress preventive health programs, which reduce cost of emotional and physical health care.
6. Increase tax exemptions for elderly and elderly dependants.
7. Educate families in the support of the elderly so that they can remain in the family home for a longer time.
8. Increase education on methods for natural family planning.
9. Parental Decisions on health services.
10. Seminar around the state.
11. More availability of services in rural areas.
12. Family counselling-parent education.

Topic: Legal

Issue: Domestic Violence

Policy Recommendations:

1. Money for sheltered homes for victims of comestic violence.
2. Mandatory sanctions to be imposed for child or spouse beating.
3. Seminars around the state.
4. More availability of services in rural areas.
5. Family counselling-parent education.

Topic: Media

Issue: Negative Influence of TV

Policy Recommendations:

1. Media should assume moral responsibility for the things they present to the public.
2. Parents should provide definite guidelines and supervisions for television, encourage the positive aspects of television programming, discuss ideas and happenings that are presented, point out decision making by good parent models on television & discuss sound methods of decision making.

Program Recommendations:

3. A parental or family decision should be made to ensure that time allocated for television viewing fits into an overall family life schedule.
4. Parents express themselves to companies, boycott unacceptable sponsors, persist in sharing objections.
5. Ban programs which show violence and obscenity.
6. The FCC be more responsible for its monitoring, and encourage people to express their views to both local and national TV stations.

Topic: Legal

Issue: Males and females are not legally equal in our country.

Policy Recommendations:

Ratification of E.R.A.

Topic: Education

Issue: There is a need for education in family living

Policy Recommendations:

Because of changes in the lifestyles of American families, children are often learning problem solving, discussing life plans and developing value systems under non-parental influences. Since the school is where a good deal of the child's time is spent, schools may inherit by default the task of preparing young people for successful adulthood. Schools should take a deliverate step to prepare a child to face life's problems and to

prepare him to be a contributing member of his own successful family. In order to do this, health, family living and psychology classes should include the following:

1. Communication skills, developing kind but assertive behavior.
2. How to conduct a family discussion.
3. How to handle emotions in a healthy, constructive way.
4. Conflict resolution, how to keep antagonism from erupting into family violence.
5. How to set reasonable long range goals and move toward them.
6. How to handle family finances and live within a budget.

Topic: Ecomonics

Issue: Present tax structure is detrimental to families.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Abolish inheritance and estate taxes.
2. Income tax should not discriminate between married and single persons.
3. Increase tax exemption and credits for dependents and child care support, including foster child care.

Topic: Changing Values

Issue: Loss of respect for human life.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Protection of life from conception to natural death.

Topic: Education

Issue: Secular Humanism

Policy Recommendations:

1. "Secular Humanism" which is defined by the Supreme Court as a religion shall not be incorporated into programs in the public school system.

Topic: Changing Values - Employment

Issue: Society is not giving the support ot parents that it did in the past.

Policy Recommendations:

1. Society should encourage a pro-child attitude in the workplace, the marketplace, etc. Employers should consider that employees, both male and female, have family considerations which are important to them and should structure work situations in such a way as to provide time for employees to be with their families.

Topic: Education

Issue: Relationship of State to Church Schools

Policy Recommendations:

1. De-control Church-related schools with the exception of standardized academic achievement testing.

Issue: Curriculum

1. Sex education in public schools be taught within context of morality.
2. Return to increased local control of schools.
3. Return to basics in education, including the promotion of love of learning.
4. Make known to children an optional choice of roles and careers.
5. Change copyright laws to enable good TV or radio programs to be recorded and used at at the discretion of the individual schools and teachers.

Topic: Economics

Issue: Inflation pressures on families.

1. Balance the federal budget by cutting excessiye spending and promote tax reform resulting in positive impact on families.

Topic: Minority

Issue: A severly deprived group in North Dakota in regard to poverty, bad health, alcoholism, unemployment, mental illness and low educational attainment, is Native people on reservations. These federal and state programs that have been extended to them have largely proven inadequate and wasteful and have not involved much participation or leadership from Native people themselves.

Policy Recommendations:

1. The society representing the dominant culture on N.D. respect more sensitively the culture of Native people and involve them fully in policy decision.

OKLAHOMA *

TOPIC: Consumer and Taxpayer
Roles of Families

ISSUE: How do various retail practices (including consumer credit policies) affect families?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government involvement in the marketplace should be at a minimum and individuals should assume responsibility for their role as consumers.

2. It should be the policy of lending agencies and government to encourage savings rather than use of credit.

3. Payment in cash should be as acceptable as credit payment and legislation should be drafted to reflect this policy.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION:

1. Consumer education efforts should be increased with private business taking a larger role along with schools and media.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The focus in consumer education should be on preventative education, especially in credit, to all age groups and sectors of the population.

2. Individuals should be assisted in obtaining consumer information and being responsible consumers in order to protect themselves from over extension, fraud, and other problems in the marketplace.

3. Laws designed to protect consumers should be enforced.

ISSUE: What aspects of social security system need to be changed to more effectively meet the needs of taxpayers and recipients?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Social security should be structured so as to provide a "liveable" income and be fiscally sound.

2. Social security should be converted to a voluntary (optional) program handled by private firm.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Income from service-oriented work (work for other people) should be exempt from income limitation of social security beneficiaries.

2. No program changes should be made which would force women to be employed outside the home.

TOPIC: Economic Environment

ISSUE: In what ways can families be helped to cope with inflation?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to reduce inflation.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to reduce inflation so that families do not feel forced to have both parents in the labor force in order to maintain the desired standard of living.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Review programs to reduce energy costs and encourage conservation since increases in the cost of energy are a major part of inflation in the cost of living.

2. Examine government regulations for their effect on the economy and families with attention to farming and small businesses and to families with one parent only.

3. Gear government spending to the gross national product so that increases in government spending are limited to a proportion of the increase in GNP.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Citizen involvement in government programs and policy making from local through federal levels should be increased.

ISSUE: How do employment opportunities affect family well-being?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Provision should be made for expanded employment opportunities for special groups: teenagers, recipients of public assistance, handicapped. Private employment should be favored over public employment programs.

2. It should be the policy of government to more strongly enforce laws against age and sex discrimination in employment rather than enact new laws.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Expand part-time employment opportunities so that the aged, teenagers, and family members with home responsibilities can have employment.

2. Modify laws which restrict employment of teenagers.

3. Training for displaced homemakers is recommended with special emphasis on use of state funds.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Individuals should be encouraged to stay in school, obtain training for jobs, assume responsibility, and be motivated to be employed.

2. Vocational counseling and media promotion programs are recommended to help individuals build their self-image as an employee.

3. Vocational-technical schools should be better utilized in preparing persons for employment.

4. Implement a "training wage" or "apprentice wage" to be paid to teenagers, exempting them from minimum wage legislation.

ISSUE: How can low income families and families receiving public assistance improve their economic situation?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The impact of government programs which provide money and services to families should be examined to determine if these programs assist families to become self-sufficient or create dependency on the part of families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Incentives for creating jobs and hiring low income people should be provided to private employers.

2. Job training, vocational rehabilitative services and counseling should be provided low income people and public assistance recipients in order to help them become employable or improve their employment situation.

3. Various human service programs should be located in central locations and should have flexible hours which fit clients needs in order to more effectively serve clients and to facilitate referrals between agencies.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Problems of low income families should be viewed in the context of economic, school and social issues which effect them. For example, inflation hits low income families, especially the elderly, harder than other segments of the population.

2. A return to principles and practices of the Judeo-Christian ethic would foster caring for low income people at local levels eliminating the need for many federal programs.

3. Child support laws should be enforced so that fathers assume responsibility for the support of their children rather than government programs.

TOPIC: Health

ISSUE: How can the family, church and other agencies work in concert to prevent pre-mature sexual activity, teenage pregnancy, veneral disease and suicide.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The responsibilities and rights of families and Judeo-Christian moral approach should be a priority consideration in the development of education programs dealing with the above stated issues.

2. The government definition of a family should not include homosexual living arrangements, communal groups or unmarried couples living together.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Educational programs should emphasize abstinence from sexual activity and not a "do your own thing" permissive attitude.

2. Programs should be family oriented and should not usurp parents' rights.

3. If the citizens believe they have a need for services related to sexual activity, teenage pregnancy, veneral disease and suicide, consideration should be given to encouraging these citizens to access the services and resources available.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The White House Conference on Families should identify sources that are undermining parents working toward prevention of the above stated issues.

2. The WHCF should identify sources contributing to the problems of the issues stated above.

3. Parent/citizens should become more knowledgeable about existing programs and become more involved in planning, implementation and evaluation.

4. Concerned individuals should express dissatisfaction with TV programs which encourage premature sexual activity.

5. Public policy makers should be informed that the definition of family should not include homosexual living arrangements, communal groups or unmarried couples living together.

ISSUE: How are rights and responsibilities of families and individuals accounted for in family planning programs and services?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parents must be consulted before any contraceptive of abortion counseling is available to minors. (Minority report--information concerning family planning education should be made available without parental consent.)

2. Abortion is not acceptable as a method of family planning. (Minority report--abortion should be made available to the low income as well as the rich.)

3. Individuals should be free to decide whether or not to participate in family planning educational programs and services.

4. Rights and responsibilities of parents of minors should be recognized in family planning programs.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Sexual morality should be defined as sexual intercourse being appropriate only in marriage and any program should reflect this definition.

ISSUE: How can more adequate comprehensive mental health services be developed and accessible to all citizens of the state?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The private sector should be encouraged to develop quality mental health services.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Emphasis should be given to preventive and comprehensive community based services.

2. Employee benefits should be reviewed to ascertain if mental health needs are covered on an equal basis with physical health needs.

3. Government funding should be utilized to purchase or contract mental health services from state approved/licensed and accredited resources.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION:

1. Education programs should be initiated by communities and mental health agencies to reduce the stigma that continues to be attached to mental health.

2. A thorough assessment of both public and private mental health services should be conducted. In case of duplication or lack of services the private program should be continued and strengthened with the role of the public sector being that of monitoring, funding, and licensing of private services.

TOPIC: Quality Environments for Individuals and Families

ISSUE: How can provisions be made for more adequate family housing?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Inheritance tax should be abolished.

2. Processes for selecting individual families for federal housing subsidies should be reviewed and modified.

3. Government should provide incentives for private home ownership as opposed to government housing.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Advantages of home ownership should be stressed.

2. Education programs should be provided to develop knowledge and skills in housing maintainence, finance and construction and money management.

3. Community self-help housing programs should be initiated.

4. Initiate paraprofessional programs for housing education.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Establish community centers that provide housing education programs emphasizing maintainance, energy conservation, etc.

ISSUE: How can energy conservation be increased or enhanced?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION:

1. Continue the 55 miles per hour speed limit.

2. Federal government should decrease its involvement in energy.

3. Alternate sources of energy should be pursued.

4. Oklahoma should be allowed to generate and use its own natural resources.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Current heating subsidies for low income families should be built into the billing process and remitted directly to them.

2. Farmers should continue to receive fuel allocation priority for food production.

ISSUE: How can government work in concert with families and other agencies and organizations in providing for more adequate care for the young, elderly, and handicapped?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Tax incentives and deductions should be provided to encourage and facilitate care of the young, elderly and handicapped. (Minority report--licensing standards for day care centers should be more effectively enforced as well as adding policies for the requirement for in-service staff training for center personnel.)

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase efforts at local level to provide for quality care for young, elderly and handicapped.

2. Establish local educational programs to increase level of knowledge of specific care needs of young, elderly and handicapped.

3. Give top priority to care of the young child with incentives provided to mothers who stay home.

TOPIC: Media

ISSUE: How can citizens influence or produce media programming so that the traditional values are more prevalent?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Private citizens should become more knowledgeable about media requirements, and should cooperate with the media on advocacy of positive family values.

2. Programming should be monitored more closely so as to encourage uplifting and inspiring morality, and to minimize that which focuses on crime, alcohol and drug abuse, sexual immorality, etc.

3. Programming with good role models in support of the traditional family values, (Judeo-Christian ethic) should be sought.

4. The quality of programs should be upgraded.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public service announcements should be increased in number and more included in prime-time spots.

2. Government funding should be provided to public television to teach the public the use of media equipment in order that citizens can produce their own media package.

3. Media should show both sides of a situation or issue.

4. There should be more alternative programming as in PBS and more programs with positive approaches to problems.

5. The public should organize into groups to inform local stations and sponsors of positive and negative attitudes about programming and commercials.

6. Make the public aware of the availability of equal time for alternative views.

7. Establish more valid rating mechanisms to truly ascertain public tastes.

8. More local and federal government funds be made available to increase Public Broadcasting Service programs.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Organize into special interest groups to let sponsors and station managers know what is thought.

2. Support alternate programming.

3. Implement community-based lay or citizen boards for broadcast entities.

ISSUE: How can media have a more positive effect on the internal life of a family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Families should be encouraged to plan time together free of media intrusion.

2. Parents should be encouraged to monitor the use of media within the family.

3. Because of time spent with media and values espoused by media, it has become a substitute parent; media should be encouraged to be more aware of its responsibilities in supporting family life.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Families should be encouraged to discuss among themselves how they wish to spend a block of time and whether the programs at that hour are worthy of watching.

2. Families should employ selective, analytical, discriminating and critical viewing and discussion of issues raised in programs viewed.

3. There should be more value-laden programming for children.

4. News programs on world developments are good.

5. Children's programming on PBS is good.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. As a family, choose to watch documentaries, broad news coverage, fine arts programs, wholesome family programs and other worthwhile programs.

2. Set a good parental example by not viewing poor programming.

3. Spend time with ones family as an alternative to using media.

4. Alert public to existing media monitoring services/personal contact with local station management.

5. Encourage total family viewer age guidelines nationally.

6. Assign viewer age recommendations as with books.

7. Encourage the appointment of an advisory committee on family and parents' rights to devise positive family guidelines which would sensitize the media to their concerns.

TOPIC: Social Services and Community Institutions

ISSUE: How can we support families through expanded efforts to prevent problems confronting the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government, at all levels, should be supportive of families and provide more monies toward prevention and expanded services. (Greater weight toward prevention than intervention.)

2. Support groups for the family-churches, social agencies, institutions, government and the law should have better communication and cooperation among them.

3. Existing laws and programs should be evaluated to determine whether they are preventative and strengthen families, or whether they contribute to the disintegration of family

4. Government should increase funding in rural areas for prevention of family problems and provision of counseling resources.

5. Major institutions-government, education, media and social services should be more responsive and accountable to the citizens.

6. The importance of churches, religious beliefs and cultural differences need to be recognized in developing policy and programs to strengthen families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A variety or resources should be available to parents and families so that they have options from which to choose.

2. Programs should be made available for parents in local schools on parenting skills, family living courses; and how to deal with particular issues such as sex education, drugs, juvenile delinquency, etc.

3. Public school curriculum should be developed that would prepare students to be effective parents.

4. An extensive support system is needed for new parents; such as support persons or groups, materials distributed at hospitals, information on service and helping agencies

5. Parenting and sex education programs and information should receive better dissemination.

6. Alternatives and options for support services should be available to pregnant teenagers and teenage mothers.

7. More research is needed to better understand domestic violence and to develop effective programs.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Consideration should be given to conducting conferences like the WHCF in local communities to share information and provide opportunity for citizens to discuss families.

2. Encourage more epople to ge involved in the "hurts and needs" of others.

ISSUE: Who is responsible for shaping values?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government should not teach values, but rather protect the rights of church and family to teach values.

2. Place prayer and pledge of allegiance back in public schools.

3. Government should not make decisions for us; decisions should be made at a local level.

4. Elected officials should be more sensitive to people they represent and vote to reflect those people's views. Government needs to listen better and give citizens a chance to speak.

5. Government should not pass legislation that forces churches to ordain women as ministers or legislation that forces seminaries to admit women as students.

6. Government should not redefine the legal term of family to include homosexual marriage.

7. It should not be the policy of the government to promote athiestic humanism or to change the Judeo-Christian values of its people through innovative programs in education.

ISSUE: How can social services become more accountable and available to those who need them

POLICY RECOMMENDATION:

1. There should be more joint cooperation between the private sector and the public sector with citizen's input at local levels on human service delivery committees.

2. Standards should be set by professionals and lay representatives, then implemented and monitored.

3. The Right-to-Life issue should be re-vitalized.

4. Government and families should work together as support systems.

5. Existing social services should be evaluated to prevent duplication and provide coordination of services.

6. Government should support volunteerism through tax deduction for mileage, child care and flextime.

7. The quality, availability and performance of social service agencies should be evaluated and monitored with local citizen and client representation - (Minority: cautioned against too much emphasis on purely local monitoring and control, feeling that sometimes "higher authority" is necessary to keep local groups "honest").

8. There should be a streamlining of social agencies by networking and by eliminating some agencies. New agencies should not be created, but reorganize existing.

9. Consideration should be given to a voucher system for obtaining services.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A directory of local "helping" agencies should be developed and broadly distributed.

2. Agencies should publish an annual report of services and resources.

3. State and local boards should devise means to maintain accurate knowledge of the quality of services to families.

4. There should be work-release programs for "non-violent" persons who are incarcerated.

5. Government should emphasize and encourage family involvement and encourage flextime.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Formulate a committee or commission to develop areas of networking potential to minimize bureaucracy and streamline services.

2. Helping agency personnel should formulate networks.

3. A Federal Sunset Law should be established.

4. Right-to-Life should be in the constitution.

TOPIC: Government/Law/Education

ISSUE: How can the needs and rights of children within the family framework, within the judicial system, within the social service agencies be provided for?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. New state laws should be enacted to improve the adoption system. Included in these laws should be "more crackdown on gray market and private non-licensed agency adoptions" a clearing house for adoption and foster care; provision for uniform and fair standards and regulation in each county; provision to allow foster parents to adopt.

2. Laws and agency procedures should be evaluated to insure adequate legal remedy for victims of family violence - child and spouse abuse (physical, emotional and neglect). Include investigating child abuse.

3. Divorce laws in Oklahoma need to be examined with consideration given to a family court system, ways to provide more time for judge's hearing of divorce cases; options for joint custody, and the impact of no fault divorce on family members.

4. The juvenile justice system in Oklahoma needs to be examined. First offenders should not be incarcerated with adult criminals. More adequate rehabilitation services should be provided.

5. Adopt a policy of educational curricula in public school systems about the juvenile justice system as a deterrant.

6. A citizen's foster care review board system should be established.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. State level funding should be provided for: (a) shelter, counseling and advocacy programs for victims and dependents of victims of domestic violence; and (b) for community education and preventative programs.

2. Some form of restraining order/protective order (in cases of domestic violence/ spouse abuse) that can be obtained without filing another civil action, and that can be enforced by the police.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. A state-wide conference like this WHCF should be held five (5) years from now to measure accountability.

ISSUE: How can we have less government intervention in the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Families and individuals should accept responsibility for themselves and seek solutions to social problems on the community level rather than relying on the federal government to provide solutions.

2. Parents should accept more responsibility for their children and parental rights in child rearing should be maintained.

3. Any definition of family should exclude homosexual living arrangements.

4. There should be a limit to what government should and ought to do for people.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. "Parent advocacy" programs should be developed to defend the rights of parents to be the sole decision makers and to exercise control over their children.

2. There should be education programs for the public directed toward awareness of rights and responsibilities of parents, inform people how to advocate effectively and to disseminate information on issues and available programs.

3. Education programs should be developed for parents in schools, churches and homes to provide parenting skills.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Parents should spend more time with their children to avoid dependencies upon others and to prevent juvenile delinquency.

2. More people need to get involved in the "hurts" and "needs" of others on a one-to-one basis.

ISSUE: How can citizen involvement be more effectively incorporated in public school programming emanating from federal, state and local levels?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Public needs to be involved in planning long term goals of education and use of federal funds should reflect the public viewpoints.

2. Tax structures to support education in Oklahoma should be reviewed and compared with other states.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. There should be a periodic review of teaching methodology and technology in the public schools.

2. Contributions of growing number of ancillary programs should be assessed.

3. Efforts should be made to increase the level of trust (support) between the community and school personnel.

4. Emphases should be increased on higher levels of educational accomplishment among students in public schools.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Plans should be made to increase and enhance communication between parents and schools.

2. Community expertise should be assessed and used when appropriate in local educational programming.

TOPIC: Societal and cultural factors that effect the family.

ISSUE: What are the barriers to the rehabilitation of substance abusers, and how can they be overcome?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Constant availability of abused substances should be recognized as a major deterrent to rehabilitation.

2. Abstinence from all addictive substances, including tobacco, for a long period of time should be part of rehabilitation programs.

3. Detoxification should be "cold turkey" when such treatment would not endanger the life of the abuser.

4. The families of substance abusers should have the authority to commit the abuser to treatment of choice before a crime is committed.

5. Successful church related rehabilitation programs should be available without interference by law.

6. Programs that rebuild the overall health of the abuser should be instituted.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Methadone, or "substitution" programs should be discontinued.

2. Tax supported institutions should be prohibited from dispensing any form of addictive drugs, including cigarettes, to subjects with a history of substance abuse.

3. Laws must be changed to allow the family to isolate the abuser from drugs when the problem is discovered, by placing him in the private or public tight security of its choice.

4. Drug rehabilitation programs should provide good nutrition, exercise and orientation to a new way of life.

5. Doctors should recognize that they are part of the problem by prescribing addictive drugs so carelessly.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Strengthen laws punishing drug pushers, and regulating drugs.

2. Encourage physicians not to prescribe addictive drugs to new patients when they do not know the patient's history.

3. Support laws which would give families and churches the right to isolate the abuser from drugs in tight security facilities while establishing a drug-free lifestyle by rebuilding his mental, physical and spiritual health.

4. Require public institutions (schools, penal and mental institutions) to provide good nutrition and exercise for all patrons, and to prohibit the sale or use of junk food and cigarettes.

ISSUE: How can we best provide for the special needs of the handicapped and gifted members of our society?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to minimize all barriers which impede our handicapped and gifted citizens opportunities to attain a high standard of life.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Enact laws such as Public Law 94-142 for special educational needs of children who are gifted or handicapped.

2. As a community, try to increase awareness of the problems and needs of special families.

3. Encourage improvement of employment opportunities of handicapped people receiving financial aid.

4. Encourage medical insurance and state and municipal assistance for a child when diagnostic tests during pregnancy have shown the possibility of a handicap, in order to neutralize the economic pressure on a woman to have an abortion.

5. Encourage aid to the gifted child.

6. Encourage implementation of building codes regarding access by the handicapped.

7. Encourage and support assistance to families with psychological and social problems relating to handicapped members.

TOPIC: Societal and Cultural Factors that Effect the Family

ISSUE How can we best prevent violence within the family?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of local communities to establish programs which teach parenting skills and meet the needs of victims of abuse.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Local parenting courses should be available to potential parents or parents who lack knowledge in the areas of pre-natal and post-natal care.

2. Local communities should develop resources for the protection of victims of potential or actual abuse and for resumption of family life including shelters, preventative services, counselling, etc.

3. Abortion should be recognized as child abuse.

TOPIC: The Development of the Individual

ISSUE: How can we best provide, as a nation, for our aged citizens?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of the federal government to provide social security benefits to meet the needs of the people regardless of their contributions, if any.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to allow individuals the option to invest in any retirement plan in lieu of participation in the social security system.

3. It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage care of aged relatives by their families within the family dwelling.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Amend social security laws to allow optional participation in other retirement plans in lieu of mandatory compliance with Social Security.

2. Amend social security laws to include those people who do not contribute but have need of the income.

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Enact legislation which will provide tax incentives for medical care of the aged relative.

2. Enact legislation which will provide tax incentives for the family caring for the elderly within the relatives home.

3. Enact legislation in which the elderly will receive supplemental income for staying in their own homes.

ISSUE: How can families best enhance the development of their children?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It should be the policy of government to stay out of the business of taking care of children.

2. It should be the policy of the federal government to allow the family to teach values within the family without interference.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Recommend incentives be provided to corporations to provide day care for employees children.

2. The welfare department should provide means for families to work for their assistance in order to enhance the recipient's dignity.

TOPIC: Development of the Individual

ISSUE: How can families promote better rapport between parents and adolescents?

POLICY RECOMMENDATION:

1. Community organizations, social agencies, churches, and schools should sponsor parental education programs to help better understand adolescents and adolescents to understand parents.

2. Parents should become more involved in the education of their children.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS:

None

STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Adolescents and adults need to set aside time to communicate.

2. Parents should recognize that adolescents are also people.

3. Parents should spend more time with their children, emphasizing family activities.

4. Encourage dialogue between teachers and parents via PTA.

5. Parents should have substantial voice in textbook selection and curriculum design.

6. Parents should support administration in enforcing discipline in the schools.

7. Parents should deny the use of physical punishment within the schools.

8. Parents should take more interest in hiring faculty and school counselors.

OREGON *

SUBJECT: Ten Priority Delegate Issues from the State of Oregon.

1. The Federal government should actively encourage the cooperative involvement of family, school and employees in the education process by creating incentives such as: employees (including teachers) flex time or other time off so that those employees can participate with their children and educators in the educational process.

2. The Federal government should assist families and communities to care for the elderly, handicapped and economically disadvantaged in the home by appropriate support (tax credits) thru existing natural systems such as i.e., churches, neighborhoods and businesses and so fourth.

3. The Federal government should not discriminate against married couples in the application of tax deductions. Married couples should have the options to file as single if there is an advantage or the Federal government should allow a standard deduction for married couples that is equal to twice the single standard deductions. The amounts of the deduction should be commiserate with the rate of inflation.

4. The Federal government should foster a positive projection of families designed to strengthen cultural variations and racial ethnic heritage or the development of a yearly "Family of the Year" "Family Interest Rate" and programs which promote quality family time spent together.

5. In order to enable families to servive the pressures of inflation in the current continuing economic crisis the Federal Government will guarentee the basic necessities of food, shelter, clothing and medical care with emphasis on prevention rather than treatment by providing appropriate incentives and federal funding to support health and social service programs.

6. All social legislation should be subjected to a service of its importance on the family.

7. The Federal and State government will encourage better nutritional habits by:

(a) requiring schools to teach good nutrition habits, to offer nutritional lunches, to require nutritional food in vending machines by requiring the foold processing area to provide additive free food and;

(b) offering tax incentives to electronic and public media for providing nutrition oriented programs and public service announcements.

8. Federal and State tax credit should be offered to program advertising radio and t.v. stations that promote family relations in a positive and non sterotyping manner. And the FCC should require family oriented ratings where all movies are shown on T.V.

9. It should be the policy of the Federal government to give tax and other incentives to employers who establish the following programs for their employees:

(a) Flex time including a 4 day work week (10 hours a day);

(b) Sick leave for parents when children are ill;

(c) Job sharing with proportionate fringe benefits.

(d) establish on site child care centers or other wise support the child care needs of employees and;

(e) establish excercise and recreational facilities as part of the health care program.

10. The Federal and State government should encourage education as a life long learning process by involving cross section of communities without regard to age, race, sex or geographic location thru a wide variety of educational mechanisms and promote broader notions of education related to economics and work by funding a variety of work incentive programs.

PACIFIC TRUST TERRITORIES

Topic: Education for effective parenthood

Issue: with rapid modernization in the islands, many traditional parenting skills are becoming obsolete.

Policy Recommendations: The federal government should establish closer consultation with the territories during development of social legislation.

Program Recommendations: Provide special assistance to territories for schools and community-based organizations to provide appropriate knowledge for parenting children in the islands today.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference follow-up staff should contact the Department of Interior, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Territorial and International Affairs to explain Conference fundings regarding special needs of Pacific territories.

Topic: Inadequate family income

Issue: the per capita income in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is $ 850 per annum. Family solidarity is directly related to family income.

Policy Recommendations:

The federal government should place greater emphasis on economic development in the territory.

Program Recommendations:

Increase direct appropriations to improve basic infrastructure such as communications, docks, roads, shipping, water, power as well as incentives for outside investment.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference follow-up staff should contact the Department of Interior, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Territorial and International Affairs to explain Conference fundings regarding special needs of Pacific territories.

Topic: Youth delinquency and prevention

Issue: The median age in the Trust Territory is 16 years as opposed to 30 years in the States. Unemployment among youth 15-25 years is over 20%. Parents need help structuring their children's leisure time.

Policy Recommendations: The federal government should recognize the atypical youth population of Pacific territories when setting priorities for federal assistance.

Program Recommendations: The Department of Health and Human Services should be enabled to fund community-based youth services programs in the territories such as those eliminated when the Office of Youth Development was closed in 1975.

Strategy Recommendations:

Conference follow-up staff should contact the Department of Interior, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Territorial and International Affairs to explain Conference fundings regarding special needs of Pacific territories.

Families and Human Needs (Health)

Topic: Alcohol Abuse

Families and Major Institutions (Law)

Topic: Child Neglect/Child Abuse

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

Topic: Traditional/Extended Family System vs. Nuclear Family System

Families and Human Needs (Health)

Topic: Family Health Maintenance

Families and Major Institutions (Government - Local, State, Federal)

Topic: Families as Recipient of Government Services

Families and Human Needs (Health)

Topic: Family Food and Nutrition

Families: Challenges and Responsibilities

Topic: Cultural Conflicts

SOUTH DAKOTA

Topic: Special Challenges - Handicapped

Issue: 1)What can be done to assist the handicapped with gainful employment? 2)How can information about handicapped services available in the state and parent support groups be developed for all families with a physically or mentally disabled member, either child or adult? 3)What are the legal and living options for severely diabled and mentally disabled children or adults after parents are gone? (over)

Policy Recommendations:

1)Public employment policies need to recognize the need for employment of handicapped members who are capable of working. 2)Policies could work as an incentive to local businessmen who will hire the handicapped. 3)Employers should not be able to discriminate against the (over)

Program Recommendations: 1)Training programs need to be set-up for handicapped persons capable of performing skills. 2)Programs to make people more aware of services available to handicapped members and their families. 3)Establish parent support groups for families having a handicapped member. 4)Develop a statewide approach to identify families with a handicapped member and a means to publicize parent education and parent support (over)

Strategy Recommendations:

1)Form a Task Force of key state agencies to fully develop an interagency approach for developing the outreach services to families with a disabled member (i.e. identification and registry of disabled children). 2)Develop a means of publicizing services through a Hot Line or assess Tie Line capability to do this. 3)Enlist support from the Governor's Council on the employment of the handicapped and the family.

ISSUE: 4)How does a family with a disabled member deal with the effects of stress on the marriage, siblings, and extended family members? 5)How can medical diagnosis and supportive counseling for a family with a disabled member be provided early after birth, more adequately, and in a fully informed manner? 6)How can child care options be made available for a family with a disabled member, especially for babysitting, day care, and respite care?

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS: handicapped if capable of performing skills necessary for the job. 4)Promote an interagency effort to provide services to handicapped persons and their families.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS: groups for these families. 5)Develop a means to identify children with disabilities right after the child's birth. 6)Allow weekend and summer breaks for parents of handicapped children through volunteers or existing community agencies.

Topic: Children and Parents

Issue: What can be done about the need for parenthood education for youth?

Policy Recommendations: 1)That society recognize a need for educational programs to prepare youth for marriage and parenthood. 2)Society needs to recognize the role of the extended family, not only the nuclear family.

Program Recommendations: 1)Implement parenthood and marriage education programs in the schools with a local advisory council to include human relations, communication techniques, decision making skills, and sex education. 2)Educational programs to understand one's self and promote a positive self-image. 3)Encourage a cooperative effort among families, churches and schools in relationship to parenting programs for youth.

Topic: Family Crisis

Issue: What can be done to provide resources for displaced homemakers?

Policy Recommendations: 1)Policies need to be established to make persons aware of special needs of displaced homemakers and what resources are available to them. 2)Policies to establish educational, financial and referral resources to displaced homemakers through legislation.

Program Recommendations: 1)Programs to educate persons regarding resources available to help them become self-supporting individuals in the community. 2)Establish community emotional support groups through neighborhood groups and churches. 3)Set-up statewide information and referral system.

Strategy Recommendations: 1)Tie in with already existing resources. 2)Interagency cooperation and coordination provide greater scope of services and prevent overlapping.

Topic: Families and Institutions - Social Service

Issue: How can changes be made in Social Service programs where it undermines the family unit and encourages families to live in the same household and become more self-reliant?

Policy Recommendations: 1)That the United State laws affecting families be analyzed to make sure they encourage families to live together.

Program Recommendations: 1)That social service programs not discriminate against financially depressed families where the Father is in the home.

Topic: Family Life Education

Issue: How can we deal with the need for adults to receive parenthood education, marriage enrichment and communication skills training?

Policy Recommendations: 1)Policies to provide for parenthood and marriage education through community groups, churches and public agencies. 2)Establish policies that recognize that adults need preparation and training for parenthood just like any other job.

Program Recommendations: 1)Implement parent education and marriage enrichment programs through public and private community resources. 2)Utilize mass media to provide educational programs in the area of parenting and marriage. 3)Encourage industry to offer programs to their employees in this area.

Topic: Care of the Elderly

Issue: 1)What can be done to help the elderly to continue to be contributing members of society, to maintain self-respect, self-esteem, individuality, and to relocate when necessary without disruption of their lives? 2)What can be done to help families be more involved with and supportive of their elderly members? 3)How can inadequate insurance programs, insurance fraud, and high costs of medical care be dealt with by the elderly?

Policy Recommendations: There is a need to deal with relocation in helping the elderly to maintain self esteem and respect, need to educate families and a need to insure quality care in nursing homes.

Program Recommendations: 1)A program of better inspection of nursing homes. 2)Expand and improve such existing programs as meals-on-wheels, home health aides, R.S.V.P., Senior Companion, Friendly visitor and Foster Grandparents. 3)Expand Housing Alternatives.

Strategy Recommendations: 1)Set-up required programs for improved training of nursing home staff. 2)Emphasize volunteer recruitment and public awareness in order to expand existing programs. Effect legislation which would be supportive of such programs rather than limiting (i.e. liability issues, tax incentives, etc.) 3)Through a program of sensibility and public relations, seek out local investors to finance additional or alternative housing (such as groups of elderly living together in a cooperative arrangement). Also, seek legislative relief for such problems as energy needs, slum landlords, etc.

Topic: Families and Education

Issue: How should parents implement their responsibility to the school system?

Policy Recommendations: 1)What can be done to enforce policies that prohibit educational discrimination and prejudicial attitudes on the part of school boards, administrators and teachers, who often act as an autonomous group, resulting in cutting families off. 2)Policies that make educational opportunities equal for all.

Program Recommendations: 1)Parental input into school curriculum decisions, as school curriculum influences children's attitudes and values. 2)Conferences and programs to help open lines of communication between parents and school personnel. 3)Programs to utilize parents on a volunteer basis. 4)Programs to teach all children respect for and appreciation of varied cultures.

Topic: Families and the Workplace

Issue: How can employment policies be made more supportive of working parents?

Policy Recommendations: 1)That employers have approved leave time for family needs. a)when children are sick; b)school conferences; c)medical appointments for children. 2)That employers establish alternatives regarding maternity and paternity leave. 3)That family members be able to share job responsibilities. 4)Community support for Day Care Centers.

Program Recommendations: 1)That more employers offer part-time and flex-time job schedules for parents. 2)That child care be available at job site. 3)Provide working conditions supportive of families. 4)Education for parenting programs sponsored by employers. 5)Counseling services available for families at site of employment.

Topic: Families and Human Needs

Issue: What can be done to assist families with the lack of child care and health services?

Policy Recommendations: 1)Policies should be established to protect families from inflationary costs of medical services, insurance and child care. 2)Insurance companies should be encouraged to cover all health care costs including dental and visual. 3)Policies could be established where employers would help more with health and child care costs

Program Recommendations: 1)Educational programs in the schools and on TV to make people aware of need for health insurance and good nutrition as preventive medicine. 2)Improve information systems on available community health care resources and alternatives to reduce the staggering costs to young families. 3)Encourage increased nursing programs in the university to provide more health care at a lower cost.

Topic: Tax Policy

Issue: What can be done about tax structures that are currently unfair to persons choosing homemaking as a career?

Policy Recommendations: 1)That public policies be formulated in such as way so as not to penalize the person choosing homemaking as a career. 2)That social security benefits be equal for persons choosing homemaking as a career. 3)That neither spouse be required to pay inheritance tax. 4)That persons choosing homemaking as a career be able to establish IRA accounts. 5)That tax laws support marriage and the family.

Topic: GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION

Issue: What position should the government take in regard to the "right-to-life" issue?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the government to support the "right-to-life" of the unborn child except where a threat to the life of the mother exists. No tax monies may be used to pay for abortions.

Program Recommendations: Pass Right-To-Life Amendment. Encourage agencies, churches and organizations to provide continuing support services for those who may be experiencing a crisis pregnancy.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should tell their legislators to pass the Family Protection Act - S.B. 1808, and should write legislators and urge support of pro-life bills. Concerned individuals should support agencies, churches and organizations that now provide support services and encourage other agencies, churches and organizations to do likewise.

Issue: What should be the position of the federal government in regard to the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government to allow states to rescind earlier ratification of the amendment, and not to further extend the established time limit.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals should contact their legislators and direct them to address the issue of rescission and the legality of the extension of the ratification period.

Issue: In what manner can the federal government promote and support American families?

Policy Recommendations: Congress should pass and enact the Family Protection Act S1808.

Program Recommendations: Senate Bill 1808 should be passed and enacted.

Strategy Recommendations: The Advisory Committee of the White House Conference on Families should apprise the Texas Congressional delegation of their findings and encourage their support in the passage of S.B. 1808. Concerned individuals should notify their Congressman of their support of the concepts of S1808.

Topic: EDUCATION

Issue: In what ways should the federal government be involved in sex education?

Policy Recommendations: Sex education is a local matter, and the federal government should not be involved in this area.

Program Recommendations: No policy on sex education should develop on federal level.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should convey to school board officials their perceptions of what sex education programs should be provided in their public schools.

Issue: What position should the federal government take in regard to involvement in education?

Policy Recommendations: Public educational policy should be considered a state and local matter. The federal government should not establish educational guidelines or policy.

Strategy Recommendations: Legislators should be encouraged to reduce the involvement of the federal government in educational policies.

Issue: In what ways can responsible parenting be fostered?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of local agencies, churches, and schools to make family life education materials available to the public. Family life education should be included in the school curriculum.

Program Recommendations: Programs should be developed at the local level.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should urge their legislators to support family life education and family outreach programs provided by local agencies, churches and schools.

Issue: How can the federal government ameliorate the impact of busing to achieve ethnic balance in public schools?

Policy Recommendations: Legislation and appropriate funding should be developed to pursue alternative methods of insuring equality of education such as the development of policies regarding housing, magnet schools, vouchers for use in private schools, etc.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should contact legislators regarding the establishment of alternative methods of insuring ethnic balance in the schools without destroying the neighborhood school concept.

Topic: FINANCIAL CONCERNS

Issue: What steps can the government take to combat inflation and reduce its effects upon the family?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the government to reduce government spending and balance the federal budget by reducing the scope and size of government and reducing our reliance on foreign energy resources.

Strategy Recommendations: Local and state groups should form citizen task forces to examine social programs and government funded research, and publicize unsuccessful, unnecessary programs. Legislators should be urged to support anti-inflationary measures.

Issue: How can the federal government promote the integrity of the family through the Social Security program?

Policy Recommendations: The federal government should promote policies whereby elderly individuals can marry without losing portions of their benefits and receive full spouse benefits.

Program Recommendations: Revise the Social Security Act, to allow for elderly individuals to marry without losing portions of their benefits which have already been paid, and so homemakers can become eligible for participation in the Social Security system.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should contact their legislators regarding the need for this revision of the Social Security Act.

Issue: In what ways can the tax structure be revised to support the family?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the government that the tax structure shall not penalize married persons by requiring them to pay higher taxes than would be required if they were each filing as single persons. It should also be the policy of the federal government to recognize the economic contribution of the homemaker by revising the tax structure.

Program Recommendations: Amend the tax laws to provide tax equity for married couples filing joint returns, and to provide for homemaker credits.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned persons are urged to write their legislators in regard to revising the tax structure.

Topic: FAMILY STRUCTURE

Issue: What family structure should be encouraged and supported by federal legislation and program requirements.

Policy Recommendations: The federal government's definition of the family should uphold the traditional family definition of a married male and female and their children by blood or adoption and should include the single parent family, foster family and the extended family; but preclude alternative life styles as legitimate family units in all legislation and court interpretations.

Strategy Recommendations: a) National coalitions should identify a sponsor for such a bill and lobby for the adoption. b) Interested individuals should write their legislators stating the desire for their support of the traditional family definition.

Issue: What position should the federal government take in regard to affirmative action in behalf of homosexuals.

Policy Recommendations: Congress should not pass any legislation which extends rights to an individual or group solely because they are homosexual.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should urge their legislators not to support affirmative action legislation in behalf of homosexuals.

Issue: In what ways should the government provide support to the single parent family in America?

Policy Recommendations: Federal government should recognize that with the increased number of single parent families there is a great need for day care facilities, a national health program and the passage of legislation to ensure equal wages for women (who most usually head the single parent family).

Program Recommendations: Community level counseling should be provided for single parent families. The federal government should be more assertive in enforcing the Civil Rights Act of 1974, which says "equal wages for women".

Strategy Recommendations: Citizens should write their legislators advising them of their support for the passage of E.R.A. for child care and health care relief. Churches and other community service organizations should be encouraged to provide counseling for single parents.

Topic: GOVERNMENT POLICY

Issue: What steps should the government take to protect the American family from unwarranted intrusion into the family, private and social sector of our lives?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government to look first to local and state government agencies and institutions to fill the needs of our family, private and social lives.

Program Recommendations: Executive branch should issue statement regarding the sanctity and autonomy of the family and disperse it through all agency channels.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should look to their elected officials (federal and local) to make them aware of their concerns, and support all actions which reduce the influence of the federal government and return these matters to local control.

Issue: What should be the position of the federal government on the teaching of secular humanism?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal governmen to abstain from promoting any religious philosophy in the public schools which is not consistent with community values such as secular humanism.

Program Recommendations: Congress should legislate that no federal funds will be used for education programs at the teacher-training level or education of children which promotes or advocates secular humanism.

Strategy Recommendations: Develop committees at the local level of parents, educators, and other interested persons in the community to examine the philosophic bases of teaching in the local public schools system.
Ensure that legislators are informed as to the current trends in education, and involve them in the efforts to make the public school system more responsibe to local interests and concerns. Develop local community groups to insure the implementations of the program recommendations.

Topic: MORALITY

Issue: In what ways should the government be involved in moral issues?

Policy Recommendations: It should not be the policy of government to teach or dictate morality. Morality should be taught at home and by churches.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should write their legislators and urge stricter enforcement of existing laws regarding pornography, homosexuality, etc.

Issue: What position should the government take in regard to the television industry and its effect on the American family?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government to encourage more family oriented television programming and eliminate blatantly objectionable materials, particularly during family hours.

Program Recommendations: Review and revise current FCC regulations to provide for more quality programming which is family oriented.

Strategy Recommendations: Contact or boycott sponsors of objectionable television programs. Write local television stations and provide input to be considered when licenses are renewed.

Issue: What steps should the government take to protect American families from unwarranted exposure to pornographic materials, and seductive and/or offensive advertising?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the government to enforce present laws regarding pornographic materials and offensive advertising should be discouraged.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should write their legislators regarding existing laws on pornography. Citizen groups should act to develop and publicize film ratings at the local level so that potential consumers can be fully apprised of content. Individuals should be encouraged to write sponsors of offensive material, to contact station managers or owners of print media to voice objections.

Topic: CHILD CARE

Issue: What position should the federal government take in regard to child care?

Policy Recommendations: Day care should be provided by the private sector and meet state standards for licensing.

Program Recommendations: Amend Title XX, Eliminate Federal Interagency Day Care Requirements.

Strategy Recommendations: Encourage community organizations and churches to provide day care.

Issue: In what ways can the government act to increase the availability of day care in general, especially the availability of day care for infants, ill children, children with specialized needs, pre and post school care, evening and night care programs.

Policy Recommendations: The development of day care resources in the private sector should be encouraged to meet the needs of the local community. The federal government through its funding programs should encourage private industry to develop child care resources.

Strategy Recommendations: Union members should contact their union officials about including the child care issue in contract negotiations.

Issue: What forms of assistance should the federal government provide to American families experiencing separation, divorce or family violence?

Policy Recommendations: Federal government should not be involved in divorce issues. State government should initiate legislation to make counseling mandatory before a divorce can be granted.

Program Recommendations: Federal government should assist in funding local shelters for battered family members. Local community organizations and churches should be encouraged to provide legal and psychological counseling to families in crisis.

Strategy Recommendations: As members of local communities, interested persons should seek to establish free counseling through churches, community service organization, etc. to families experiencing family violence or considering separation or divorce.

Issue: In what ways can the government assist families suffering from alcohol or drug abuse?

Policy Recommendations: Federal government should more strictly enforce existing laws regarding alcohol and drug abuse, and provide federal funds for preventive education, counseling and shelters for families suffering from alcohol or drug abuse.

Program Recommendations: State and local organizations should provide programs of preventive education, counseling and shelters for families suffering from alcohol or drug abuse.

Strategy Recommendations: Write legislators in support of stricter enforcement.

Issue: In what ways can the government act to reduce the incidence and stress of teen pregnancies?

Policy Recommendations: Preventive education and assistance should be provided through local communities, churches, and in the home.

Program Recommendations: More programs of preventive education should be established in communities and encouraged in the home. Programs should be developed to assist teenage mothers in the areas of parenting, day care, and health care.

Strategy Recommendations: Encourage legislators to support programs at local level.

Topic: CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Issue: What position should the federal government take regarding legislation in the area of Children's Rights?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government to forego any additional legislation regarding Children's Rights.

Strategy Recommendations: Individuals should inform their legislators as to their opinions involving Children's Rights.

Issue: In what ways can the government assist families experiencing child abuse and neglect.

Policy Recommendations: Federal government should assist in funding local programs for abused and neglected children, providing services to whole families where necessary. Local community organizations and churches should also establish and expand shelters, and programs which provide services to those in need.

Strategy Recommendations: Interested persons should write legislators uring them to initiate federal legislation to fund local shelters for abused and neglected children. Community members should be encouraged to establish local shelters and programs which provide counseling services to victims of family violence.

Topic: PARENTS IN THE WORK FORCE

Issue: In what ways can the government be more responsibe to the needs of families where the parent(s) must work?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government to stabilize the economy to the point that mothers enter the work force through crisis and not necessity.

Program Recommendations: Amend current tax laws to provide credits for homemakers.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals should inform their legislators as to the long term effects of absent parents upon children's developmental patterns. Parents should be counseled as to how they can better arrange to spend quality time with their children.

Issue: In what ways can the government support the availability of flexible working hours for parents in the work force?

Policy Recommendations: It should be the policy of the federal government to institute the options of flexible work hours and part time positions for federal employees and to encourage private industry to provide such options.

Program Recommendations: Amend Section 12 of Title 20 of the U.S. Code to provide for flexible working hours for federal employees.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned individuals are urged to write their legislators. Union members are urged to raise these issues with their union officials.

I - EDUCATION AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. Is there too much federal governmental involvement in and regulation of education?

B. Should education be regulated to bring about the social change that local communities have failed to implement, i.e. desegregation, busing, etc.

C. Should the authority to plan education programs be returned to states and local school boards working with parent advisory councils?

II - ECONOMICS AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. What governmental and non-governmental policies should be adopted to reduce inflation impact on families.

B. What roles should government and non-government organizations play in providing for those in need of public assistance and what emphasis and incentives should be placed in making recipients and potential recipients self-sufficient?

C. Should the tax laws of the federal, state and local governments be revised to provide a substantial tax reduction for and eliminate discrimination against families, including those with special needs?

III - FAMILIES, WORK AND THE WORKPLACE

ISSUE

A. Should government subsidies for day care be increased, reduced or eliminated?

B. Should incentives be offered to businesses to offer day care programs for their employees?

C. Should industry be encouraged to provide flexitime?

D. Is gainful employment one thing the primary bread-winner(s) of a family must have to support, protect and improve the well being of his/her family?

E. Should laws regulating youth employment be relaxed?

IV - HUMAN REPRODUCTION

ISSUE

A. What role, if any, should the federal government play in financing abortion and/or family planning.

B. Should minors, without parental consent, be allowed to have abortions and be given access to contraceptives or information about contraception?

C. What should be the respective roles of families and the schools in teaching sex education?

V - MASS MEDIA AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. Is there an excessive amount of sex and violence portrayed on the television and in the movie theaters? If so what is the federal government's role in its control.

B. Does the visual and the written method of information dissemination, particularly the medium of advertising need to focus so heavily on sex to convey the message?

C. What can be done in communities to insure that pornographic or obscene material, as defined by law, is not available to children, youth and/or adults?

VI - LAW AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. Should federal laws and policies be uniformly reviewed, revised and repealed in consideration of how they affect successful family functioning?

B. What specific areas of proliferated governmental regulation is having an adverse affect on families.

VII - HEALTH AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. What are the appropriate roles of government and the family in funding health care?

B. What can be done to enhance the role of the family in the care of the elderly?

C. What can be done by public and private agencies to make people more aware that unhealthy lifestyles cause unnecessary disease and disability?

VIII - VALUES, CONFLICT AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. What can communities and community agencies do to minimize the adverse affects of community conflicts on family life?

B. How can communities and community agencies deal effectively with value differences?

C. Is government's response to varied vested interest groups creating conflict by giving each family a different perspective toward government?

D. What can be done to develop common purposes and unity in our communities and our society?

IX - FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

ISSUE

A. To what extent should government be involved in support of families with special needs, re:

B. What can be done to more effectively deal with preventing and curing domestic violence.

X - GOVERNMENT, RELIGION, MORALITY AND THE FAMILY

ISSUE

A. Is government rejection or negation of religious institutions and spiritual values having an adverse impact on the family?

B. Which value issues are primarily the role of government and which should be reserved to families?

C. How can laws be made more harmonious with generally accepted moral standards?

WASHINGTON

Topic: LAW

Issue: In what manner should the family be legally defined? (Wa. State Issue #1)

Policy Recommendations:
1. The family should be legally defined as persons related by blood, heterosexual marriage, or adoption. (961 votes)
2. The family should be legally defined as any adults with or without children who commit themselves to sharing responsibilities, rights, and goals. (290 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. The legal definition of the family shall be binding on all government agencies and insurance companies. (152 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Support the passage of the Family Protection Act, S-1808. (170 votes)
2. The family should be considered the most important unit of society, and its responsibility is the rearing and character formation of children. (181 votes)

Issue: How can we constitutionally and statutorily guarantee equality for all people? (Wa. State Issue #5)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Assure pay based on comparable worth of jobs. (48 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Support passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. (262 votes)
2. Rely on existing legislation to guarantee equality. (94 votes)

Issue: To what extent should the federal government have the authority to legislate in the area of family law? (Wa. State Issue #6)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Congress shall legislate to protect the family but not infringe on parents' rights to discipline and educate their children. (229 votes)
2. Marriage and domestic relations laws should be the exclusive jurisdiction of states and localities. (113 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Elect representatives who support local control and encourage community initiative to support the family. (77 votes)

Issue: To what extent should the federal government have the authority to legislate in the area of family law?

Policy Recommendations (cont.):

3. Federal policies should ensure full employment economy and a minimum standard of living for all people. (47 votes)
4. The federal government should abide by the 10th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. (44 votes)

Issue: Should the state and federal laws be changed to allow the definition of the family to read in such a way that this would enable homosexual couples to marry and/or adopt children? (Wa. State Issue #15)

Policy Recommendations:

1. Federal and state laws shall remain firm in the definition of family, i.e., a family consists of persons who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption to prevent homosexuals from legally marrying and/or adopting children and, so as not to have our message diffused, we recommend passage of the Family Protection Act, S-1808.

Issue: What course of action should be taken to safeguard the traditional family institution in our society from the decriminalization of so-called victimless crimes? (Wa. State Issue #25)

Policy Recommendations:

1. It shall be the policy of the federal government to encourage states and local governments to make no change in existing criminal laws relating to conduct between adults and/or conduct between adults and children where the effect of such changes would be to decriminalize so-called victimless crimes.

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Concerned individuals are urged to write their elected representatives to urge support against decriminalization of so-called victimless crimes, and support for the withholding of federal funds from communities which change the laws to decriminalize so-called victimless crimes.

Issue: What course of action should be taken to safeguard the traditional family institution in our society from the decriminalization of so-called victimless crimes?

Policy Recommendations (cont.):

2. The federal government shall withhold all federal funds used to support law enforcement activities in any state or community that amends existing statutes or ordinances to decriminalize so-called victimless crimes.
3. The federal government should encourage states judicial systems to enforce existing laws regarding victimless crimes, and that victimless crimes (pornography, solicitation of sexual acts in public) are not to be decriminalized.

Topic: EDUCATION

Issue: How shall the rights of parents to rear and educate their children according to their chosen philosophy be protected? (Wa. State Issue #2)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Limit further federal and state control and intervention, returning to neighborhood schools, and community-based policy making. (337 votes)
2. The government shall insure the rights of parents to rear and educate children according to their own philosophy. (409 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Parents should have the right to review and participate in the selection of textbooks for the classroom. (232 votes).
2. The government should establish minimum standards that parents must meet for children regarding their health, education, and general welfare. (84 votes)
3. Allow tax credits and tax exemptions for private schooling expenses. (120 votes)
4. Sex education in the school should be available but not required. (59 votes)
5. Family law should remain in jurisdiction of state and local government. (36 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Support the passage of the Family Protection Act, S-1808. (563 votes)

Issue: In what ways would additional preparation for family life strengthen the family? (Wa. State Issue #7)

Policy Recommendations:
1. There should be economic education for all family members including housing, legal matters, financial management, and nutrition. (40 votes)
2. Counseling and crisis intervention services should be made available to families by private and public organizations. (285 votes)
3. Preparation for parenthood classes as a means of preventing social problems should be made available to the greatest number of people and parents without discrimination. (77 votes)
4. Services for family planning should be made available to meet the needs of parents and potential parents. (205 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Family life and parenting education should be part of the basic education curriculum. (457 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Encourage parents to assume full responsibility for the teaching of basic morality, self-esteem, and prayer in the home. (52 votes)
2. The media should portray the family in a positive and supportive light. (28 votes)

Issue: How do we help parents teach moral values to their children, i.e., drugs, pregnancy, abortion, sex? (Wa. State Issue #20)

Program Recommendations:
1. Provide counseling and accurate information to parents in establishing healthy parent-child relationships which foster understanding of family values and standards. (148 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Teach children to assume responsibility for their behavior and consequences of that behavior in home, church, and school. (37 votes)
2. Encourage parental respect and healthy parent-child relationships. (48 votes)

Issue: What is the effect of quality education on the family? (Wa. State Issue #24)

Program Recommendations:
1. There should be tax incentives for employers who provide on-site, pre-school education. (16 votes)
2. The government should provide everyone, including minorities, disabled, aged, or single parents with opportunity for a quality education based on desire and achievement of person to learn and excell in a trade or field wherein they can support themselves when they reach adult life. (16 votes)

Issue: What is the effect of quality education on the family?

Program Recommendations (cont.):
3. The government should insure and support programs to assist the one million adolescent parents (male and female) who are not now able to complete basic education. Programs must be marketable, provide income, and offer a trade. (14 votes)
4. Tax deductions for college expenses of parents or families of students. (14 votes)

Issue: How can we provide sex education to both students and parents through cooperatively-planned programs? (Wa. State Issue #27)

Program Recommendations:
1. Schedule an information course for parents and teachers.
2. Make the course information mandatory for students and make available a teaching team for schools, churches, and community agencies.
3. Organize teaching teams of health professionals, volunteer parents, teachers, and older students.

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Establish a community task force composed of parents, teachers, and students to review the curriculum and define concepts to be presented.

Topic: GOVERNMENT: LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL

Issue: How can various levels of government develop or modify policies to provide programs, through public or private sector, that assure adequate services to strengthen families? (Wa. State Issue #3)

Policy Recommendations:
1. There should be government and privately-funded quality day care for children, elderly, and disabled including housing and health care? (315 votes)
2. Government policies directly affecting families should be created and administered at the local level. (199 votes)
3. The federal government should prohibit the destructive family-impact aspects of existing public policies. (73 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Provide tax breaks to industries and businesses providing services to families. (87 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Create local study groups to determine gaps in service. Have groups recommend methods of local implementation. (87 votes)

Issue: What course of action should be taken to ensure religious freedom? (Wa. State Issue #12)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Sex education should not be taught in schools except for biological aspects. (43 votes)
2. Recommend that the federal government abide by the 10th Amendment. (30 votes)
3. Maintain separation of church and state including matters of education. (105 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Defeat the Equal Rights Amendment. (33 votes)
2. Endorse the Family Protection Act, S-1808. (149 votes)

Topic: FINANCES

Issue: How can we assure an adequate income for all members of our society which guarantees that each person will have an opportunity to participate in community life? (Wa. State Issue #8)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Federal tax systems should be revised to protect earnings of low and middle-income families in such a way that it provides for the necessities of life and provides for a minimum family income. (85 votes)
2. Government spending should be reduced in the area of welfare, and alternative methods of government spending should be developed that promote training and job opportunities. (58 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Reorganize federal welfare and other support programs to provide adequate income to recipients in a non-punitive way to enable them to participate fully in community life including work. (91 votes)
2. Cut military and general government spending, close tax loopholes, and direct funds to support services for families. (58 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Support educational opportunities for quality education, job training, and re-training for all including youth in high school. (90 votes)

Issue: How can we assure an adequate income for all members of our society which guarantees that each person will have an opportunity to participate in community life?

Policy Recommendations (cont.):
3. Provide equal pay for comparable work in order to end all types of wage discrimination. (69 votes)
4. Provide incentives to private industries and local training programs to increase jobs and employment. (63 votes)
5. Provide opportunities for full employment for all who want to work with no forced overtime in order to redistribute available jobs. (39 votes)

Program Recommendations (cont.):
3. Increase the minimum wage. (25 votes)
4. Institute general negative income tax system. (37 votes)

Issue: What sort of action should be taken to curb inflation? (Wa. State Issue #13)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Establish balanced government spending by having the government spend no more than tax revenues and reevaluate current programs before establishing new ones. (178 votes)
2. No further federal solutions to family problems because they intensify inflation and government control. (50 votes)
3. Transfer funds from federal programs to state and local programs. (32 votes)
4. Enforce parental responsibility for reparations of children's vandalism and other illegal actions. (69 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Print no money not backed by precious metals. (87 votes).
2. Reprioritize the budget; cut back on social welfare programs and innovative education programs. (38 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Encourage personal responsibility by urging each citizen reevaluate his/her priorities, to do most things for himself/herself, and have the government do those things absolutely necessary that the private sector, local government, and extended family cannot handle. (88 votes)

Issue: How do governmental economic and taxing policies affect the family? (Wa. State Issue #21)

Policy Recommendations:
1. The federal government should balance the budget by cutting spending. (23 votes)
2. Eliminate inflation. (18 votes)
3. Adopt and implement a policy of full employment at an adequate income level. (16 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Do not influence or discriminate regarding the size and structure of families within the tax system.
2. Provide equal access to employment opportunities and equal renumeration without discrimination as to age, sex, race, religion, marital status, or handicaps.

Topic: HEALTH

Issue: How can we protect the right to life of an unborn child? (Wa. State Issue #9)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Do not use government funds to finance litigation concerning abortion. (84 votes)
2. The government should develop policy to recognize that the child's right to life is its first and foremost right. (82 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. There should be education in schools about abortion and alternatives to abortions. (108 votes)
2. Unmarried minors should not be able to receive contraceptive devices or prescription for V.D. or abortion-related services without the knowledge and consent of the parents. (55 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Pass an amendment to the U. S. Constitution guaranteeing right to life from the moment of conception. (72 votes)
2. Pass the Family Protection Act, S-1808. (155 votes)

Issue: Should government policies and judicial decisions permit or promote government-funded services of abortion? (Wa. State Issue #18)

Program Recommendations:
1. Abolish any government or social agency or program that promotes by any means abortion or the dissemination of contraceptives to minors. (79 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Support passage of the Family Protection Act. (40 votes)
2. Ask Congress to rescind the law that legalizes abortion. (18 votes)

Issue: How can we provide healthy and productive life styles for the elderly? (Wa. State Issue #19)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Eliminate mandatory retirement for those physically and mentally capable of continuing their profession. (26 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. There should be tax incentives to keep elderly in their own homes or the home of their extended families with provision of services for those with illness or disabilities. (51 votes)
2. Additional tax exemptions should be made for nursing home expenses, property taxes, and taxes on food and medicine. (37 votes)
3. Provide adequate care for the elderly through nursing homes, day care facilities, or in-home services. (57 votes)

Issue: How can effective quality health care, including mental health, be made more affordable and accessible to all? (Wa. State Issue #23)

Policy Recommendations:
1. The government should encourage in-home health care and preventive medicine for elderly and disabled. (68 votes)
2. Support health care education. (50 votes)
3. Support dental care. (22 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Pass a comprehensive national health insurance program. (125 votes)
2. Remove federal involvement and return control to locality and family. (49 votes)
3. Develop health care guidelines. (29 votes)

Topic: CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Issue: How can diversity of life style and freedom of choice be protected and supported for the various types of families that exist in our pluralistic society? (Wa. State Issue #10)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Support programs that give senior citizens services to support the elderly in their homes. (42 votes)
2. The definition of the family should include natural, emotional, economic, care, affection, unified life style, self-proclaimed unit, psychological ties, regardless of legal, sexual, or other non-traditional orientations. (121 votes)
3. The government should support community programs of family education, parent education, sex education, life style education, and the diversity of families. (82 votes)
4. Child custody cases should be based on ability to parent and in the best interest of child's welfare regardless of life style, orientation, values, etc. (29 votes)
5. Services to families should be based on need, not on life style. (39 votes)
6. Preserve extended families via education and services. (26 votes)
7. Protect family right to maintain their own values regarding religion, moral ethics, etc., assuring freedom of choice. (20 votes)
8. Provide health and social services for all families, including housing. (29 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Family planning and abortion services be available to all regardless of finances, race, religion, or community values.
2. There should be no discrimination in housing, employment services, support services, regardless of family unit base, i.e., whether gay, minority, single. (181 votes)
3. Financial and support services should be available to enable care of the elderly in their own homes. (31 votes)
4. There should be more services to foster parents. (21 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Support passage of Equal Rights Amendment. (128 votes)

Issue: What action should be taken to preserve the rights of parents to teach and raise their children without the intrusion of government? (Wa. State Issue #14)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Government shall not enact laws which undermine or destroy natural parental rights to rear and form the character of the parents' children. (47 votes)
2. Local, not federal, government should have control of education to ensure maximum input by parents and less interpretation by federal government for problems that exist locally.
3. Civil and constitutional rights and equality under the law shall not be denied on the basis of age.

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Assist government to recognize that parents have rights and responsibility to educate their children according to the philosophy of their choice. (48 votes)

Issue: How can the natural rights of parents to the custody and control of their children be protected? (Wa. State Issue #17)

Policy Recommendations:
1. The issue of homosexuality in and of itself not be a deciding factor in the granting of child custody.

Program Recommendations:
1. Adequate family planning services and education be made available to families.

Topic: FAMILY CRISES

Issue: How can we help victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse? (Wa. State Issue #4)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Make services more accessible by developing a single point of contact for all services, keeping services community-based whenever possible, and improving communication between agencies. (90 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Increase public awareness of battering and child abuse through media; pass relevant legislation and sponsor continued education for parents and professionals to reduce family violence. (616 votes)
2. There should be adequate government funding for shelters and counseling services, direct aid to victims, and all other services appropriate to the problem. (329 votes)
3. There should be education programs for parents and all family members to help them cope with personality disturbance, extreme anger, irrationality, and depression. Mass media should emphasize positive, non-violent role models. There should be confidential and easily available counseling services. (126 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. New laws should be enacted and existing laws strongly enforced to protect victims of violent physical and sexual abuse. (402 votes)

Topic: CHILDREN

Issue: In what way does availability and quality of child care affect modern family economics and society in general? (Wa. State Issue #11)

Policy Recommendations:
1. Establish federal funding for a variety of child care programs, including locally controlled programs. (169 votes)
2. Encourage employee flex-time schedules for employers. (56 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Provide tax breaks for businesses for child care programs and tax deductions for working parents for child care expenses. (181 votes)
2. Develop 24-hour child care centers at the neighborhood level. (72 votes)
3. Improve the quality of child care by subsidizing training for providers, improved staff salaries, and establishment of standards. (126 votes)
4. Develop federal and state-supported programs for the training of personnel to provide child care for the developmentally disabled or children with special needs. (31 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:
1. Recommend the use by parents of support systems for child care by encouraging the use of extended families and neighborhood networks. (106 votes)

Issue: How can we promote and protect the rights of children in our society? (Wa. State Issue #26)

Program Recommendations:
1. The President and Congress should provide continual funding and support for the prevention and treatment of abused children and their parents under the Child Abuse and Treatment Act of 1974.
2. Individual states should set up child abuse reporting, counseling, and intervention programs or strengthen such programs as already exist.

Strategy Recommendations:
1. In order to promote and protect the right of every child to adequate shelter, food, health care, emotional support, and education we, as a society, should provide support services to our families.

Topic: MEDIA

Issue: How can we better regulate quality of mass media? (Wa. State Issue #16)

Policy Recommendations:
1. The FCC, through grass roots involvement, should require: (1) fewer commercials, and (2) demand greater honesty and accurate portrayal of advertised products. (24 votes)

Program Recommendations:
1. Develop guidelines to lessen the amount of sex and violence on TV programs and commercials. (116 votes)
2. Schedule children's programs earlier in the evening and monitor to exclude mature subject matter. (27 votes)

Strategy Recommendations:

1. Media should establish local telephone "hot lines" where citizens can easily phone in negative and positive reactions to programming. (62 votes)
2. Write letters to congressmen, TV networks, and local media stating our need for better quality control in programming. (25 votes)

Topic: FAMILIES AND THE WORK PLACE

Issue: How should laws affecting the family and the work place be adapted to conditions of the 1980's? (Wa. State Issue #22)

Program Recommendations:

1. Labor laws should facilitate job-sharing and flex-time work scheduling. (42 votes)
2. Compensation, including social security benefits, should be set for homemaking and volunteering. (61 votes)
3. There should be tax incentives for employers who provide child care on site.

WYOMING

Topic: Family Crisis

Issue: #1: Family Violence

Policy Recommendations: Public policies should be developed that strengthen and support the American family.

Program Recommendations: All communities should develop a formal network able to cope with families experiencing a crisis.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned citizens should become familiar with the research that has been done, including gaps in our knowledge and the implications of the reserach relating to family violence. With these findings they must develop programs that are sensitive to family violence. These findings and recommendations must be formally presented to appropriate legislators, public officials, and influential community leaders.

Issue: #2: Adolescent Pregnancy

Policy Recommendations: Because of the continuing increase of teen-age pregnancies and the damage to both child parent and baby, public policies must be developed and accepted that will significantly reduce the incidence of such pregnancies.

Program Recommendations: Every elementary school, public and private should develop and implement parenting education programs. In addition, each community should provide adult education programs that assist parents to better understand and help their children in the area of parenting education.

Strategy Recommendations: Concerned agencies and individuals should promote legislation which would require schools to provide opportunities for parenting education. The State Department of Education should be responsible for providing sound information and personnel assistance to local districts in offering appropriate parenting education programs.

Issue: #3: Divorce

Policy Recommendations: Because of the effect that divorce has on the entire family, a policy is needed that will provide assistance to those families in situations which will lessen the damage done because of divorce. Additionally, efforts should be made to find alternatives to divorce and to avoid situations and circumstances that are condusive to divorce.

Program Recommendations: Require family life experience in class rooms that are designed to help young people better understand problems that may occur in a marriage. This program should be supplemented with increased availability of family counseling services.

Strategy Recommendations: A concentrated drive to help more people become aware of the misery often caused by a divorce and to bring about needed social change.

Topic: Children and Parents

Issue: #1: Preparation for parenting

Policy Recommendations: A policy should be adopted that provides the necessary means to educate young people about the responsibilities of parenthood.

Program Recommendations: Parents must be prepared to cope with ways to support their children financially and emotionally until the children become productive members of their communities.

Strategy Recommendations: Parents, schools, and other individuals and groups must accept the responsibilities of providing adequate models that help to further educate young people about the responsibilities of parenthood.

Issue: #2: Parent-child relations

Policy Recommendations: Improving parent-child relations is essential for preserving the family unit. A policy which would promote better understanding and communication between parents and children should be developed.

Program Recommendations: Community efforts, in the form of government, civic, and religious education and intervention programs should be developed which would assist families needing help in communication and conflict resolution.

Strategy Recommendations: 1. Increase financial assistance to relations groups as an incentive to institute such programs.
2. Increase options for such programs.

Issue: #3: Responsible Parenting

Policy Recommendations: Few subjects deserve as much attention as the level of responsible parenting. Unwanted teen age pregnancies have become national epidemic. Alcoholism and drug abuse have become a national concern; smoking continues among young people; there is a deep concern about the failure of some parents to immunize their children. Research findings indicate that citizens in general and youth, particularly, are unaware of or do not know about or accept their rights and responsibilities as parents. Therefore, policies should be adopted that foster strong social and legal measures designed to bring about greater awareness and acceptance of responsible parenting.

Program Recommendations: Develop concentrated programs in schools, homes, and mass media offering information and acceptance of responsible parenting.

Strategy Recommendations: Print and distribute "Rights and Responsibilities" pamphlets; educational programs via radio and T.V.; offer suitable courses through school; encourage adequate funding.

Topic: Families and Economic Well-Being

Issue: #1: Inflation

Policy Recommendations: Seek to cure inflation by decreasing government spending and decreasing consumer spending.

Program Recommendations: Wage and price controls.

Strategy Recommendations: Seek consumer cooperation to hold costs down. Develop inter-agency cooperation to avoid overlaps and gaps in critical services. Cease deficit spending in government.

Issue: #2: Jobs and Consumer Affairs

Policy Recommendations: Seek to develop ways to increase job satisfaction, produce quality products.

Program Recommendations: Actively seek to develop pride in workmanship and appreciation for the task, the worker, and his accomplishments.

Strategy Recommendations: Education through public media.

Issue: #3: Tax Policies

Policy Recommendations: Seek a more equitable tax policy within the U.S.

Program Recommendations: Make the tax policy more equitable for all.

Strategy Recommendations: Eliminate all deductions and tax everyone a percentage of the gross income. 10% is the recommended level for taxation.

Topic: Families and the Law

Issue: #1: Child neglect/abuse

Policy Recommendations: Educate youth to good parenting practices.

Program Recommendations: Education for parenting courses for all students in each school year as age appropriates.

Strategy Recommendations: Introduce and get acceptance of parenting curriculum in all school districts through state education department and local school boards. Teach child care courses in schools and through other community agencies.

Issue: #2: Divorce/separation/alimony

Policy Recommendations: Equal rights for all parties in the action.

Program Recommendations: Family court system.

Strategy Recommendations: Legislation developed through the judicial system.

Issue: #3: Juvenile justice/delinquency

Policy Recommendations: Recognize the rights of all Wyoming children.

Program Recommendations: Family court system

Strategy Recommendations: Ombudsman in each judicial district; establishment of family court system.

Topic: Education

Issue: #1: Availability of quality education

Policy Recommendations: Overall curriculum developed at the state level and adopted by local school entities.

Program Recommendations: Adequate funding, qualified instructors, and curriculum which meets the needs of the students.

Strategy Recommendations: Increase state responsibility to insure equal and quality education for all students with censure powers given the state for non-compliance at the local level.

Issue: #2: Home-school relations

Policy Recommendations: Seek to define the role of the school and the role of the family.

Program Recommendations: Open the schools to more community activities.

Strategy Recommendations: Media efforts from state education department.

Issue: #3: Cost of education

Policy Recommendations: Equality of funding.

Program Recommendations: Administration to be done by State Department of Education.

Strategy Recommendations: Funding of education equally state wide.

Topic: Government: Local, State, Federal

Issue: #1: Sensitivity to families

Policy Recommendations: America has many programs that affect families, but it does not have a family policy. Research findings concerning divorce, child and spouse abuse, mothers working outside the home, rigid working schedules, single-parent families, etc., indicate a need for a sound policy concerning families.

Program Recommendations: The 1980 White House Conference will tend to create a greater sensitivity, awareness, and understanding of the American family.

Strategy Recommendations: Make the 1980 White House Conference a meaningful experience and tell the family story loud and clear.

Issue: #2: Accountability to families

Policy Recommendations: The American family is in trouble with little or no understanding of this blight by government. Policies should be adopted that all legislation and decisions concerning people should carry an impact statement on families.

Program Recommendations: Encourage social, political, and economic programs that strengthen and support families.

Strategy Recommendations: Elect legislators and officials that understand and support programs that strengthen families.

Issue: #3: Overall family perspectives

Policy Recommendations: No national policy but many decisions that affect families and family life. Policies are needed that bring a greater awareness of the need for strong families in this nation.

Program Recommendations: Family life is an appropriate area of concern for all segments of society. All actions, private and public, affect families. Therefore, programs of all kinds and types that strengthen and support families should be encouraged.

Strategy Recommendations: Family programs published and encouraged, legislation that strengthens and supports family life and public officials who support the concepts of family life.

Topic: Housing

Issue: #1: Cost of Housing

Policy Recommendations: Steps should be taken to create policies that stimulate the development of safe, affordable, and barrier-free housing for families.

Program Recommendations: Housing has become an urgent family issue in energy impacted Wyoming. Inflation, high interest rates, and rapid influx of workers have created excessive shortage of family housing. Private and public resources should be employed to provide adequate housing that families can obtain, that is within their financial means. In addition, housing should be available that meets the needs of varietv of family structures and lifestyles. Provisions should be made to help families cope with the rising cost of heating and lighting, and other necessities for family living.

Strategy Recommendations: Provide assistance to impact communities and impose mandatory wage and price controls.

Issue: #2: Availability of family housing

Policy Recommendations: Establish policies that reduce the disparity between housing demand and availability of housing.

Program Recommendations: Support sound impact and housing studies. Use the findings of these studies to determine the needs and then create programs that address the problems. Attempting to resolve these issues will be complex because of the many and complex interests involved.

Strategy Recommendations: Encourage the development of safe, affordable housing for all people.

Issue: #3: Neighborhood and community impact

Policy Recommendations: Policies must be adopted and strengthened that require those responsible for creating complex industrial enterprises to provide for the effects of impacting an area before the projects begin. This would include adequate housing, water, sewer, power, schools, police service, courts, roads, streets, transportation systems, medical services, and other essentials of life.

Program Recommendations: Planning committees, public and industry, to insure adequate pre-planning and action before the impact takes place.

Strategy Recommendations: Adequate legislation to cope with impact and other issues that will provide reasonable housing for family units.

Topic: Health

Issue: #1: Drug/alcohol abuse

Policy Recommendations: Abuse of drugs/alcohol contributes to deterioration of mental and physical health.

Program Recommendations: Early childhood training that (inappropriate use) equals negative results. Involve education and media.

Strategy Recommendations: Continue current programs. Involve peer pressure.

Issue: #2: Availability, quality, and cost of health care

Policy Recommendations: Quality health care must be made available to all segments of population.

Program Recommendations: State, county, and municipal sectors, as well a private sectors work cooperatively to attract and provide quality health c and transporation system to this care.

Strategy Recommendations: Make people of state aware of locations of appr priate health care facilities.

Issue: #3: Preventive care

Policy Recommendations: Attempt to break vicious circle of ignorance concerning preventative mental and physical health care.

Program Recommendations: Education through media, schools, public health.

Strategy Recommendations: Present problem to State Legislature for passage of proper legislation.

Topic: Child Care

Issue: #1: Availability of quality child care

Policy Recommendations: The ever increasing number of families with one or both parents working makes it increasingly important for quality child care to be available for protection, well-being, and stimulation of children and peace of mind of parents. Basic research indicates that a child never stops developing. Policies should be adopted that recognize this finding as a fact and to act accordingly.

Program Recommendations: Every community should offer a quality day care program for every child that needs this service.

Strategy Recommendations: An intensive program should be implemented with the goal of educating the general public to the fact that 40% of all mothers with pre-school aged children now work outside the home, of an alarming increse in child abuse and neglect, and underdevelopment of many. Americans must know that the child cannot wait until tomorrow.

Issue: #2: Variety of choices

Policy Recommendations: Ours is a pluralistic society without an established policy concerning child care. Therefore, families should have an opportunity to the type and kind of care they choose for their children so long as these options meet basic standards established by the people.

Program Recommendations: Encourage individuals, groups, and industries to establish and operate day care facilities for anyone in need of such services. When these segments of society do not fulfill the needs of families, the government should fill the gap.

Strategy Recommendations: Convince the general public that children should receive an education which will enable them to develop their abilities, their individual judgements, their sense of moral and social responsibilities, and to become useful members of society. These opportunities should be offered when the child is ready for this training.

Issue: #3: Cost of child care

Policy Recommendations: According to the Wall Street Journal, 58% of school-aged children's mothers and 41% of pre-school aged children's mothers are now employed outside the home. This phenomenon leaves many unsupervised children in houses and on the streets during and after school hours. Therefore, a national policy is needed that addresses this blight on our society.

Program Recommendations: Create flex time working hours for mothers or fathers that makes it possible for a minimum of one parent to be home when children are scheduled to arrive, lengthen the school day or provide adequate child supervisors for after school programs.

Strategy Recommendations: Extensive programs that tell the story of America's latch key child and legislation that aims to alleviate this dire need for relief.

Topic: Care of the Elderly

Issue: #1: Availability of quality care

Policy Recommendations: Most families have or will experience the reality of relocation of the elderly, including the loss of self-esteem, respect and independence; and the parallel problems of quality nursing care. Therefore, Wyoming must develop and implement policies which recognize the worth and dignity of people handicapped by advancing age.

Program Recommendations: Many nursing homes are dark, dingy, depressing places with inadequate facilities, equipment, and helping personnel. Therefore, a sound nation-wide building and developing program should be initiated to provide quality care and housing for the elderly.

Strategy Recommendations: Quality care can be provided for elderly Americans. Therefore, a nation-wide campaign should be initiated that will produce widespread acknowledgement of the need.

Issue: #2: Variety of choices

Policy Recommendations: In a pluralistic society a valid question arises: should necessary care of the incompacitated elderly be provided by public or private means. Therefore, policies should be established recognizing that adequate and desirable approaches for providing care are valid.

Program Recommendations: Some families can and desire to care for the elderly members in their homes. This practice should be encouraged and supported. Other families require public or private nursing homes. Therefore, programs must be implemented that support and encourage families where elderly are cared for in the homes, such as meals on wheels and similar support systems and suitable nursing homes both private and public where needed.

Strategy Recommendations: The public must become aware of the need for adequate care for the elderly through the spoken word and the mass media.

Issue: #3: Costs of care of elderly

Policy Recommendations: Many people become unable to be productive members of society because of age. Some members of this group are caught in sprawling inflation which robs them of savings and support systems. Therefore, policies must be adopted that make adjustments in rising costs of heating, food, and housing for the elderly.

Program Recommendations: Programs must be adopted that make adjustments to income and cost of living.

Strategy Recommendations: Legislation.